



**IMPRINTS** 

**EDHIT** 



European  
Civil Protection

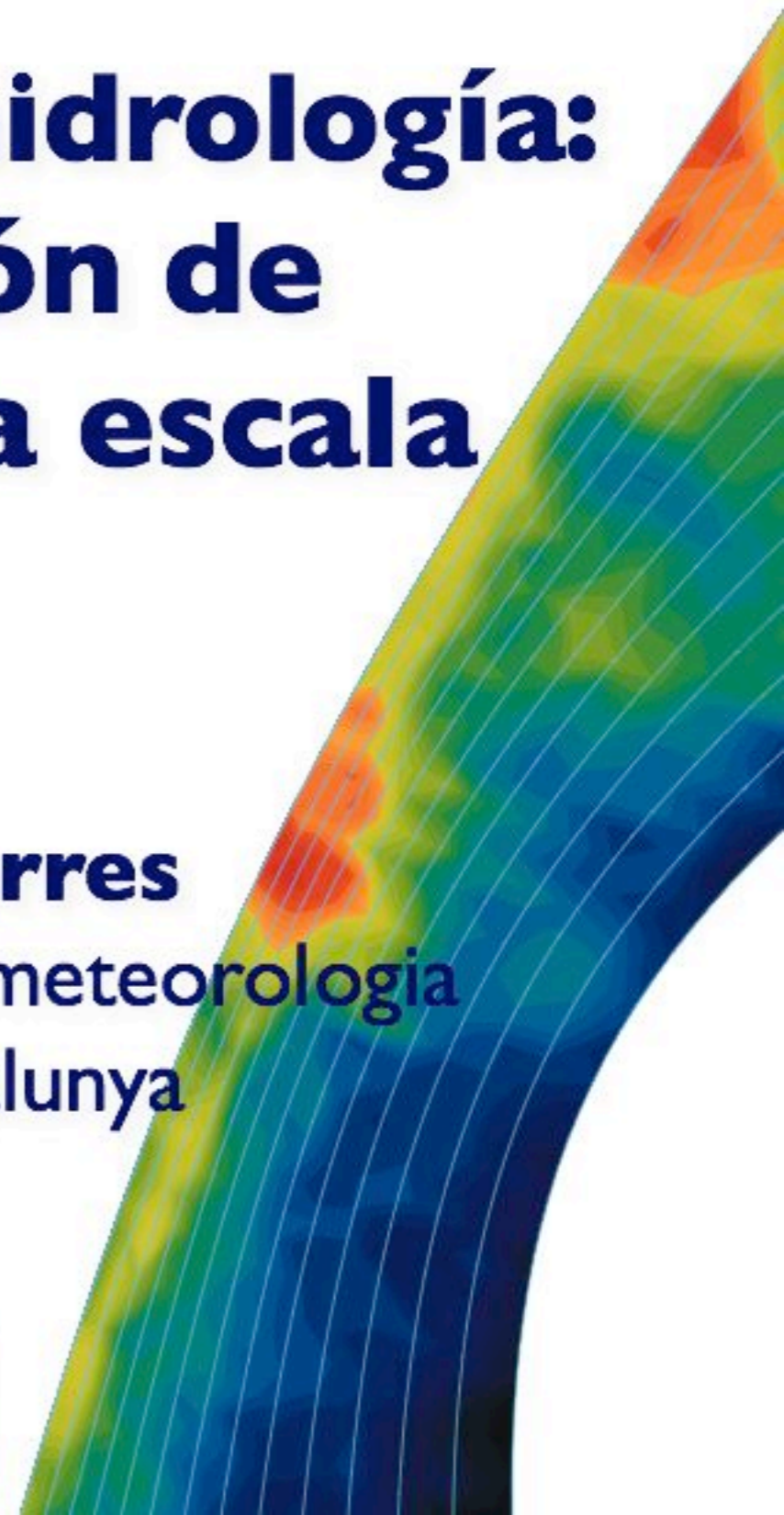
# De la meteorología a la hidrología: Sistemas de previsión de “peligro” hidrológico a escala Europea

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Centre de Recerca Aplicada en Hidrometeorologia

Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

Barcelona





# **Genova (Italy) on 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2011**



**after > 300 mm of accumulated rain in less than 24h**



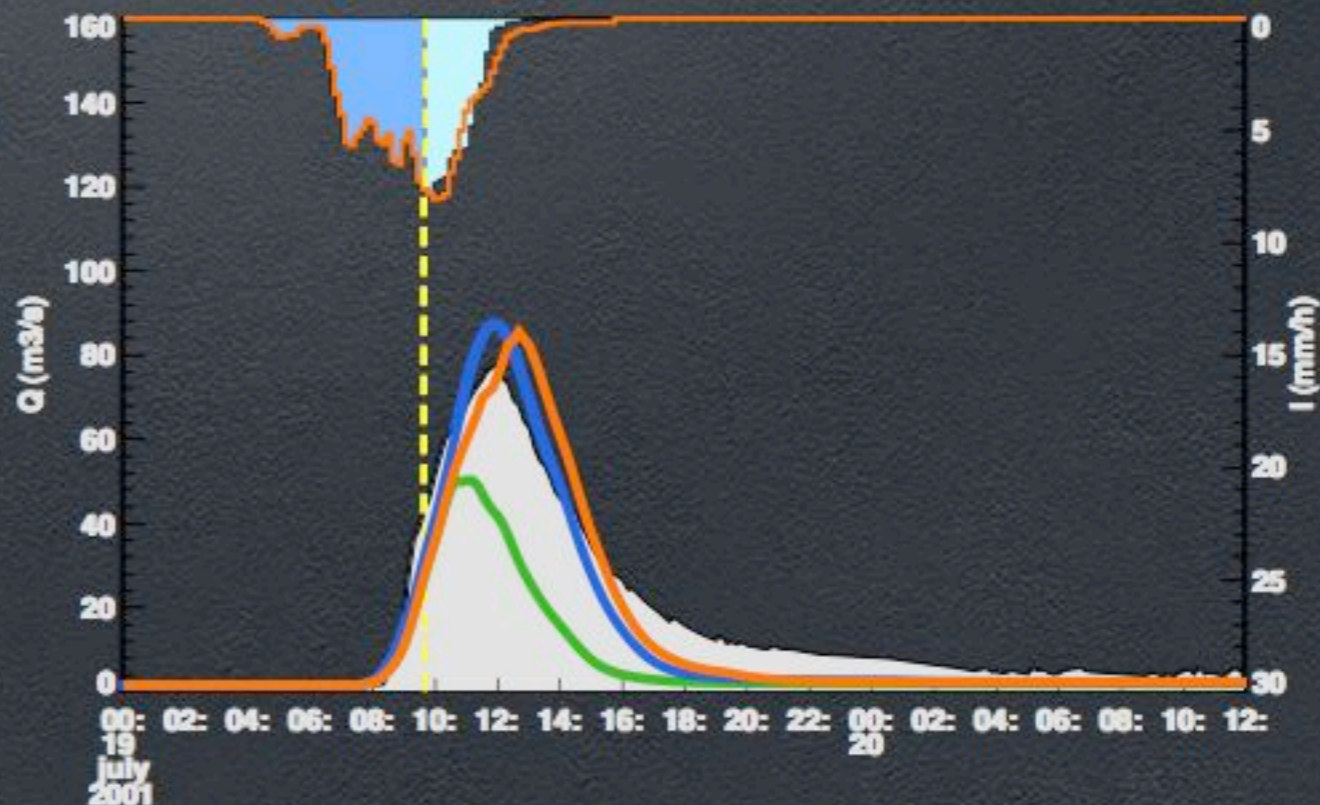
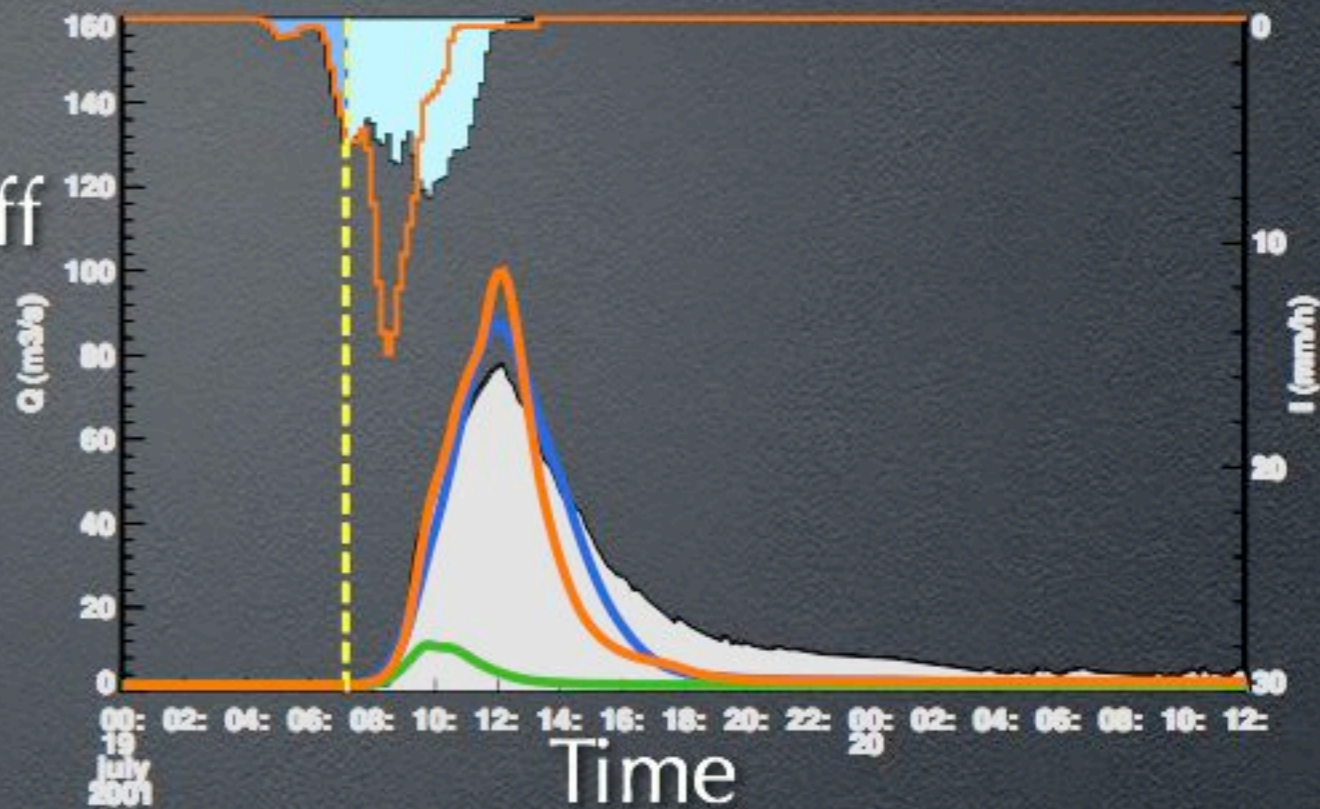
# Why precipitation nowcasting is crucial in hydrology?



forecasting example using radar  
(Besòs river at Montcada, July 2001)

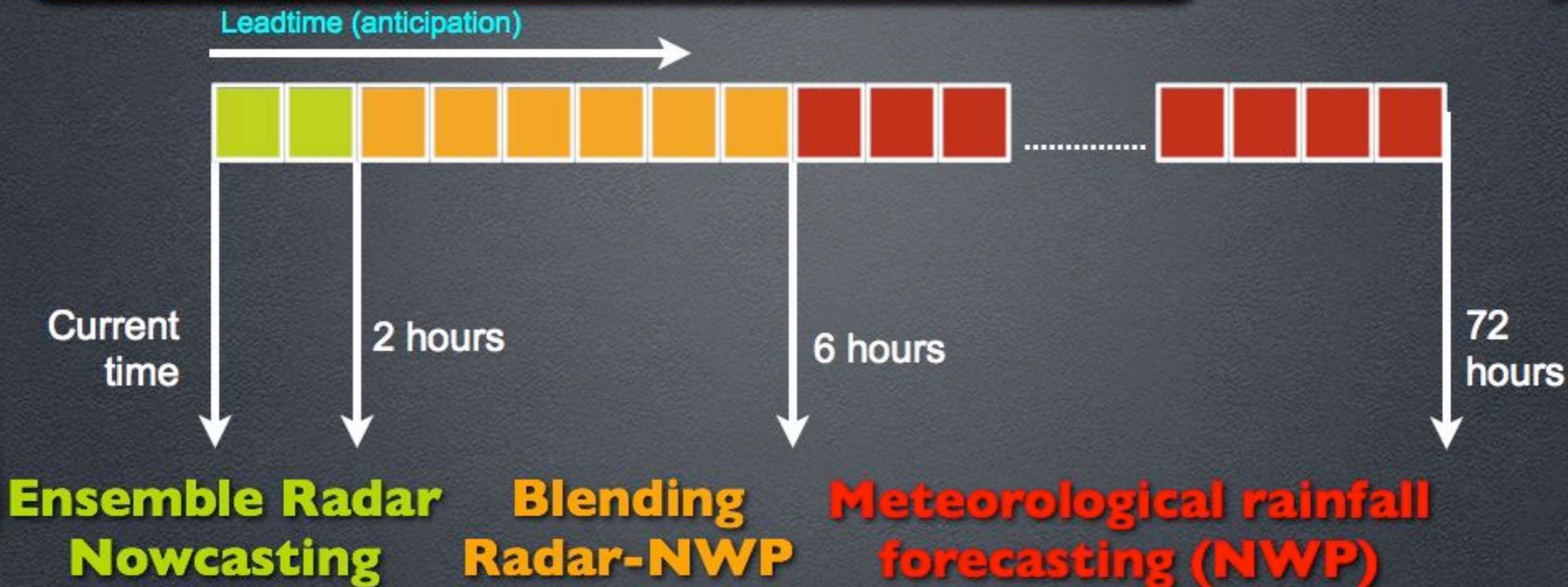
Runoff

- observed runoff
- model
- model (without QPF)
- model (with radar based nowcasting)





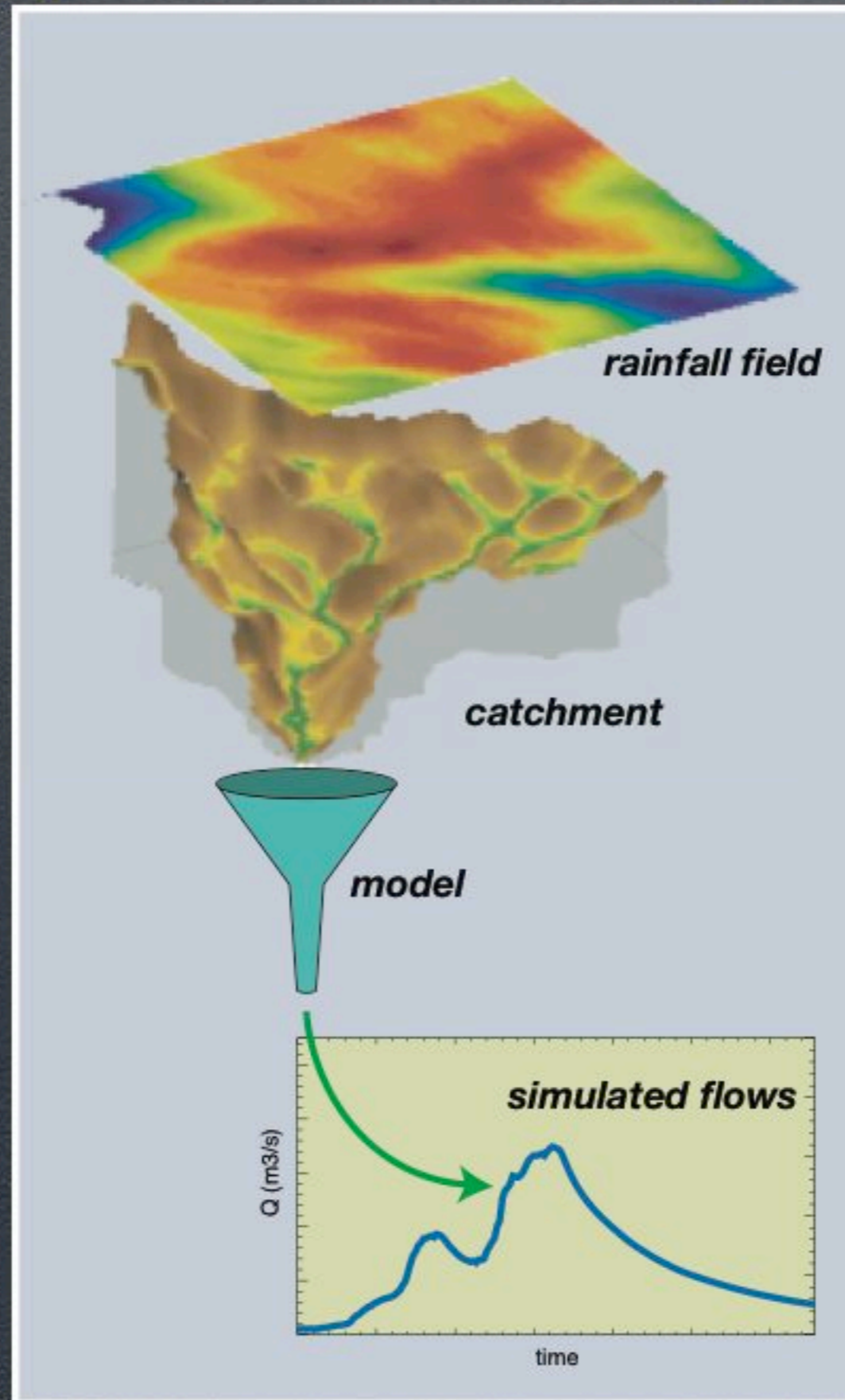
# Increasing anticipation of heavy rainfalls



- **High resolution radar nowcasting probabilistic outputs** (ensembles) for FF & DF forecasting **(up to 2 h)**
- **Combining (blending) radar rainfall nowcasting with probabilistic NWP products** **(between 2h and 6h)**
- **Adapting high-resolution meteorological model forecasts** to FF & DF early warnings **(from 6h to 72 h)**



# Coupled hydrometeorological forecasting





# Experience from three European projects coordinated by CRAHI

FP 7 Cooperation Work Programme: Environment  
Collaborative Project


**IMproving Preparedness and Risk maNagement  
for flash floods and debris flow events**




**IMPRINTS**

FP7-ENV-2008-1-226555  
January 2009 - November 2012


**EC FP7 PROJECT COORDINATED BY**



Centre de Recerca Aplicada en Hidrometeorologia  
UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA




**Hazard Assessment based on Rainfall  
European Nowcasts**




**HAREN**

<http://www.haren-project.eu/>

**Prevention & Preparedness Projects**

**European Demonstration of a rainfall and  
lightning induced Hazard Identification  
nowcasting Tool**



**EDHIT**

<http://www.edhit.eu>

**Coordinator:**



**Stakeholders:**





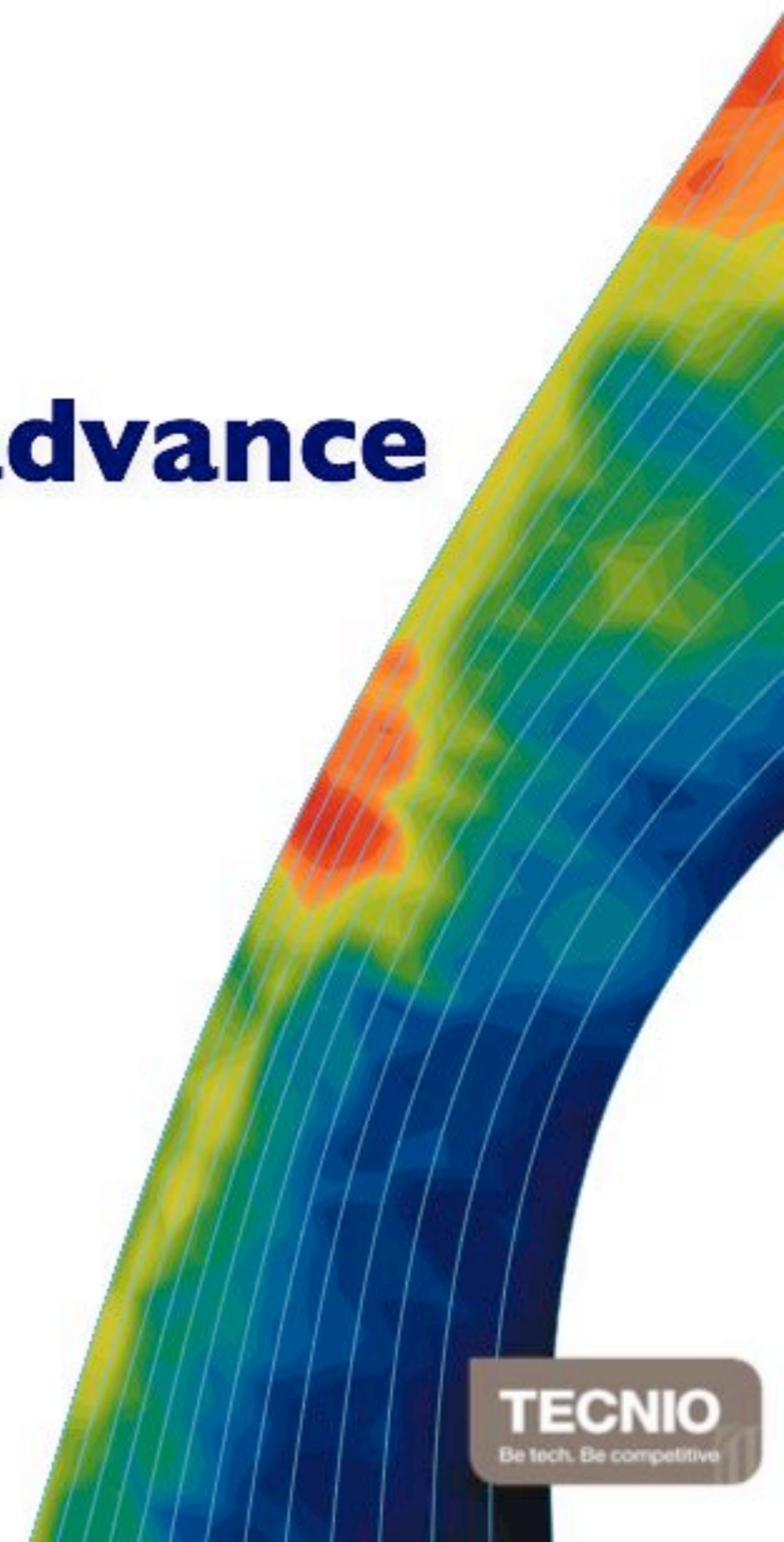


# HAREN



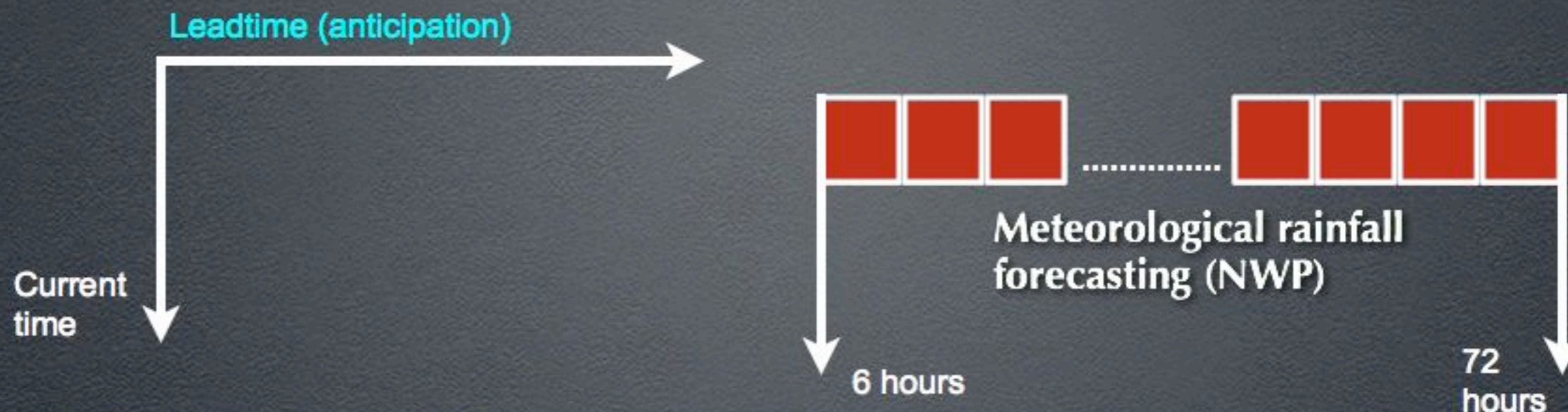
European  
Civil Protection

## From 6h to few days in advance

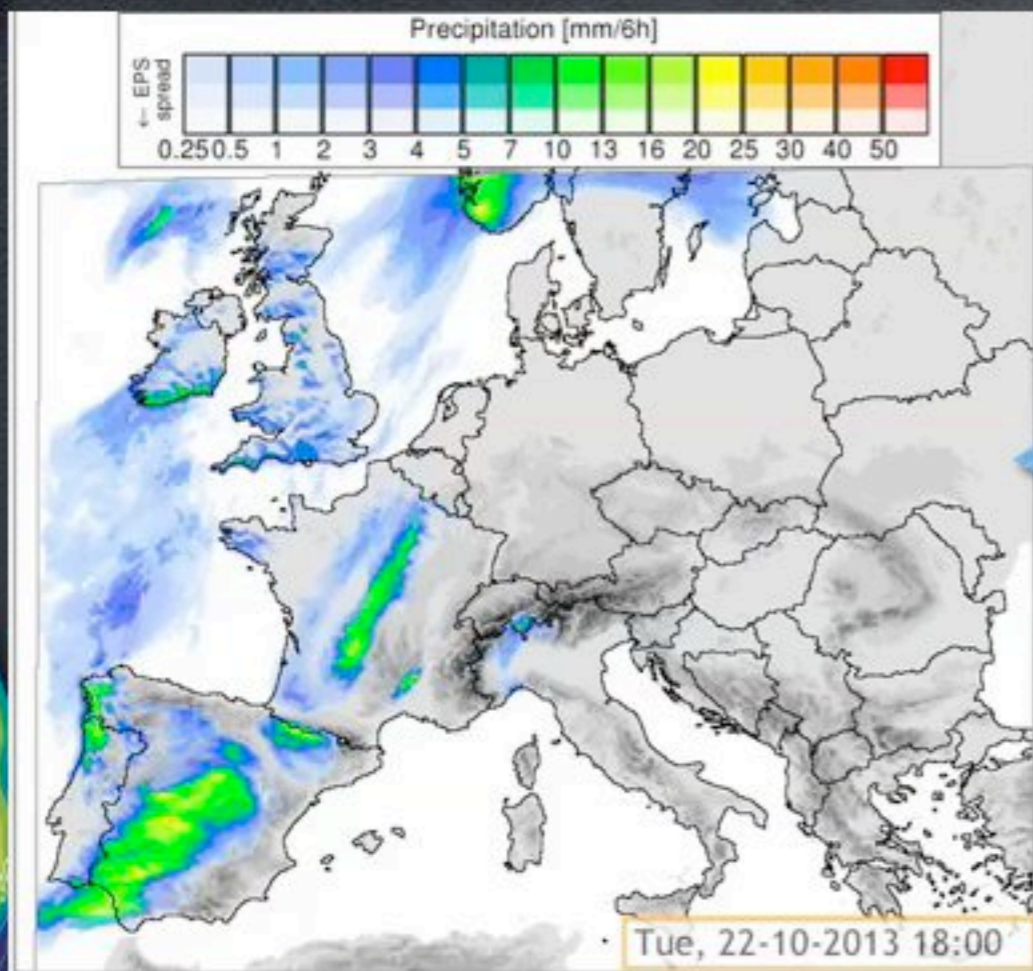




# EUROPEAN FLOOD AWARENESS SYSTEM (EFAS)



- Adapting high-resolution meteorological weather forecasts to their use for FF & DF early warnings (from 6h to 72 h)



Initialisation with ECMWF-VAREPS  
(15 days, 51 members, 32 km resolution)

Operational COSMO-LEPS 7  
7 km spatial resolution  
since Dec 2009

Probabilistic Forecast COSMO-LEPS  
16 Ensembles

Source: MeteoSwiss-  
COSMO Consortium





# EUROPEAN FLOOD AWARENESS SYSTEM (EFAS)

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JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE



EFAS European Flood Awareness System

European Commission > JRC > IES > FLOODS action > EFAS-IS

RESOURCES: [Floods portal](#) | [EU Floods directive](#) | [WISE](#) | [GDACS](#)

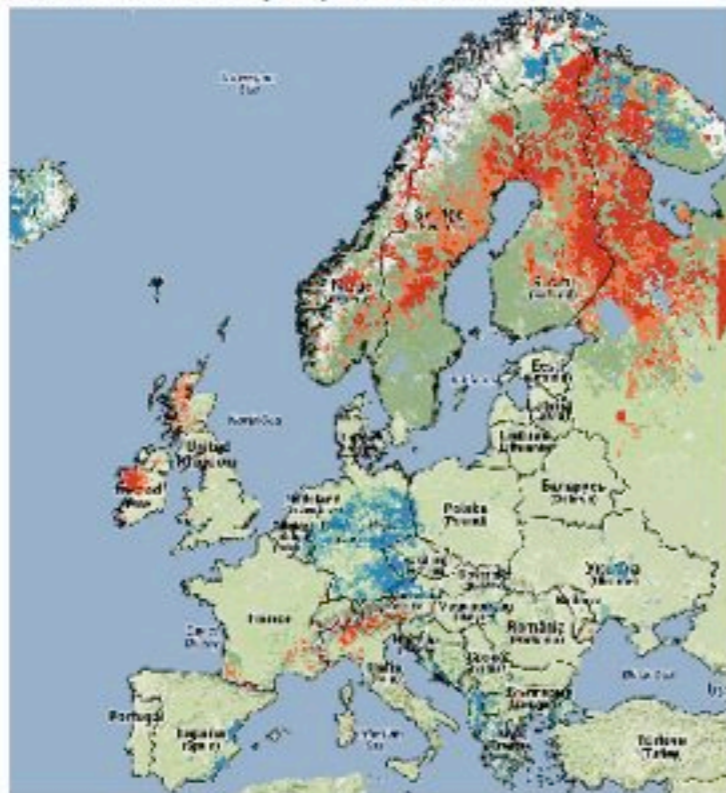
## European Flood Awareness System (EFAS)

The European Commission's "Towards a Stronger European Union Disaster Response" adopted and endorsed by the Council in 2010, underpins the importance of strengthening concerted actions for natural disasters including floods, which are amongst the costliest natural disasters in the EU. The European Flood Awareness System (EFAS), developed to produce European overviews on ongoing and forecasted floods, contributes to better protection of the European Citizen, the environment, property and cultural heritage in support to the [EU Mechanism for Civil Protection](#).

EFAS was developed at the [Joint Research Centre](#) of the European Commission in close collaboration with the National hydrological and meteorological services, European Civil Protection through the [Emergency Response Coordination Centre \(ERCC\)](#) and research institutes.

Since 2012 EFAS is an operational service under the umbrella of the [Copernicus emergency management service](#) and run by Member States organisations. EFAS also represents the 1st operational hydrological network in Europe.

### Soil Moisture Anomaly Map of 22nd of Mar 2014



Deviation of the LISFLOOD simulated daily soil moisture from normal conditions. The normal conditions have been derived using the simulated soil moisture from a 22 year model climatology (1991 - 2012).

- High water than normal ( $SWR < -2$ )
- Much water than normal ( $-2 = SWR < -1.5$ )
- Water than normal ( $-1.5 = SWR < -1$ )
- Normal ( $-1 = SWR < 1$ )
- Less than normal ( $1 = SWR < 1.5$ )
- Much less than normal ( $1.5 = SWR < 2$ )
- Highly dry than normal ( $SWR > 2$ )

### Aims of EFAS operational

- added value early flood forecasting products to hydrological services
- unique overview products of ongoing and forecast floods in Europe more than 3 days in advance

### MoU PARTNERS LOGIN

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## EFAS Bulletins

### 2014-02-17

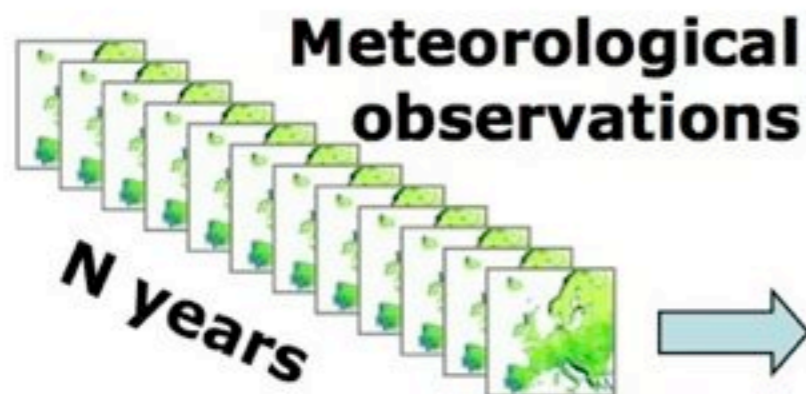
The COPERNICUS Emergency Management Service – Rush Mode Mapping has been triggered for floods by

- Slovenia (Ministry of Defence - Administration for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief ) on 2014-02-11 14:16 UTC
- UK's Cabinet Office (Civil Contingencies Secretariat) on 10.2.2014 at 10:10 UTC
- France (Centre Operationnel de Gestion Interministeriel de Crises (C.O.G.I.C)) on 2014-02-07 at 11:40
- Portugal (National Command ...)

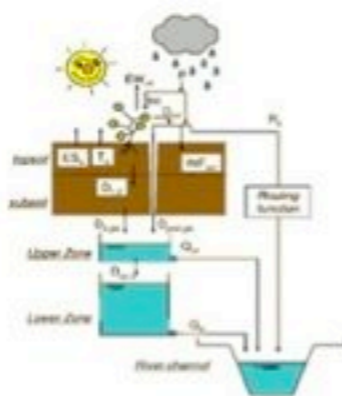
<http://www.efas.eu/>



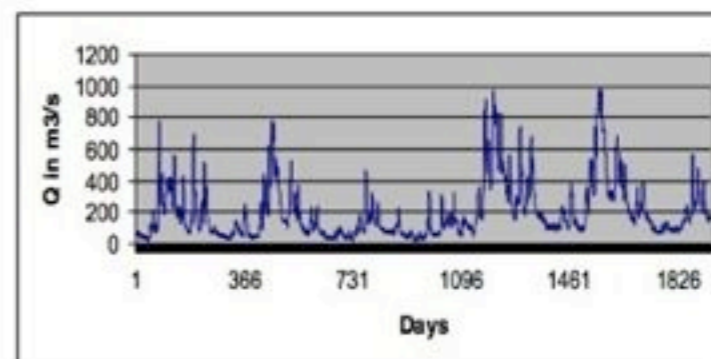
## Establish thresholds – from model climatology



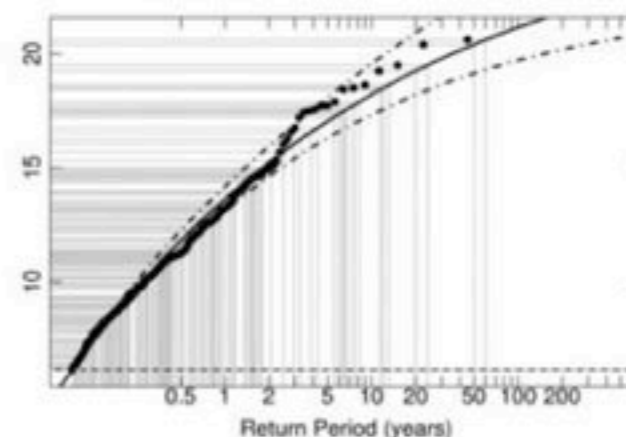
### LISFLOOD



### Discharge time series



### Return period statistics



### Thresholds



- Thresholds are derived from simulated time series.

- The same model set-up and parameterisations are used in the forecasts to remain model consistent

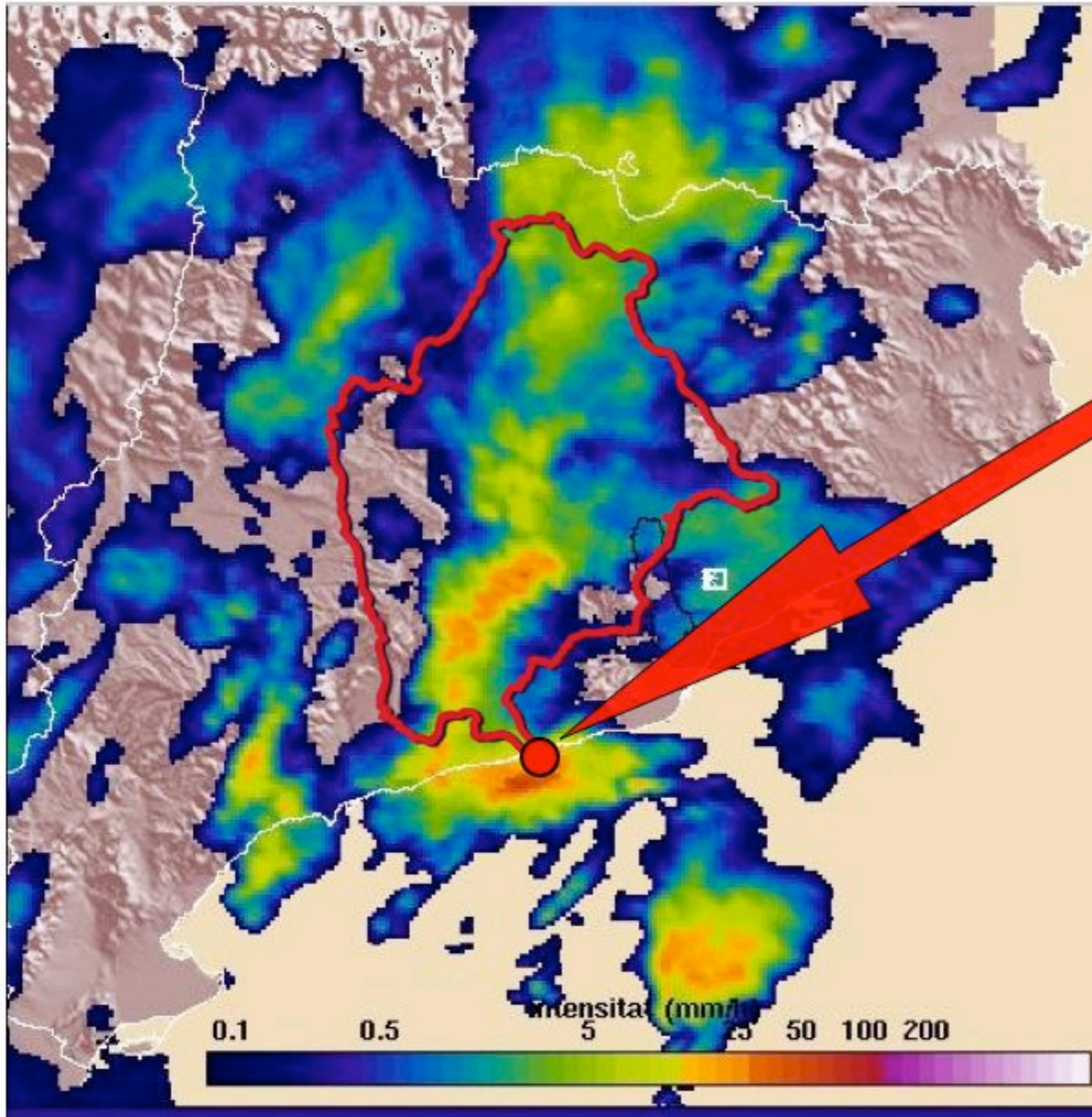


**In Flash Floods, the basins affected are small (tenths of Km<sup>2</sup>) and show very quick responses (from 1/2 hour to few hours)**





# Basin aggregated rainfall exceedances



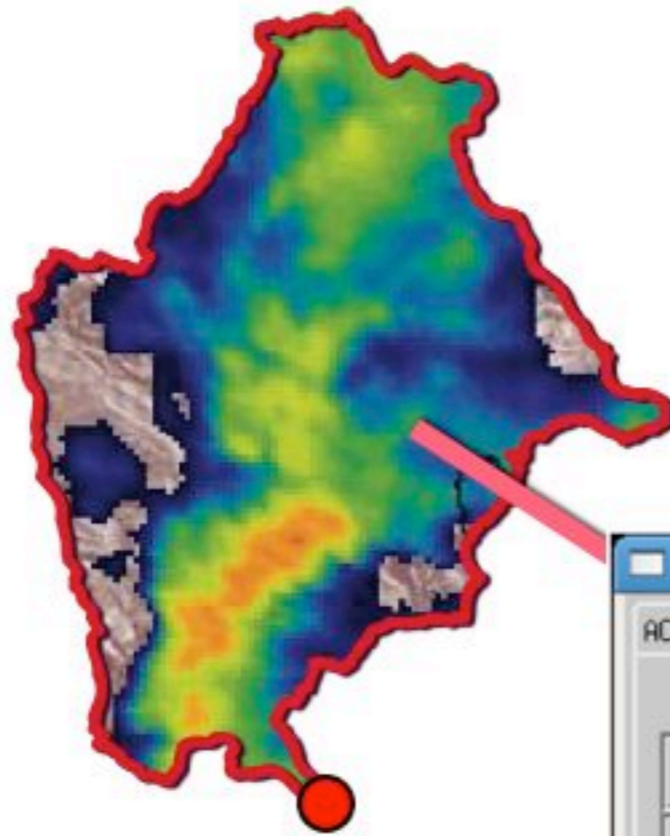
Given a point in the drainage system,

We can define the associated basin, and calculate the rainfall that will be collected by the selected point



# Basin aggregated rainfall exceedances

This basin aggregated rainfall is accumulated over the hydrological characteristic time of the basin



And a **probability of Exceedance** is associated (return period in years)

Finestra stats 426, 4600

ACC30 Cabal Grafica IDF **Taula IDF**

**Return Period**

	T2	T5	T10	T25	T50	T100	T200	T500
30m	41.3	59.2	72.9	90.8	106.6	122.4	139.0	163.0

Taula IDF (mm)

	T2	T5	T10	T25	T50	T100	T200	T500
1h	27.5	39.4	48.6	60.5	71.0	81.6	92.6	108.6
2h	35.6	51.0	62.9	78.3	91.9	105.6	119.8	140.6
3h	40.8	58.5	72.1	89.8	105.4	121.0	137.4	161.2
4h	44.6	64.0	78.9	98.2	115.3	132.5	150.3	176.4
6h	50.2	72.0	88.7	110.4	129.7	148.9	169.0	198.3
12h	59.7	85.5	105.4	131.2	154.1	177.0	200.8	235.6
24h	68.3	97.9	120.6	150.2	176.4	202.6	229.9	269.7

Coordenades del punt (426.5,4600.5) Km

**Duration** **Accum Rainfall thresholds**



## EPIC: European Precipitation Index Climatology

- **30 Years of COSMO-LEPS** reanalysis have been generated.
- For any point in the river system ( $1 \text{ km}^2$ ) a **Climatology of its basin aggregated rainfall** is calculated.
- A Precipitation Index based on Climatology is thus calculated at European scale (**EPIC**).
- For any new event the rainfall forecasted is used to calculate the **basin aggregated rainfall, and compared against the EPIC CLIMATOLOGY.**

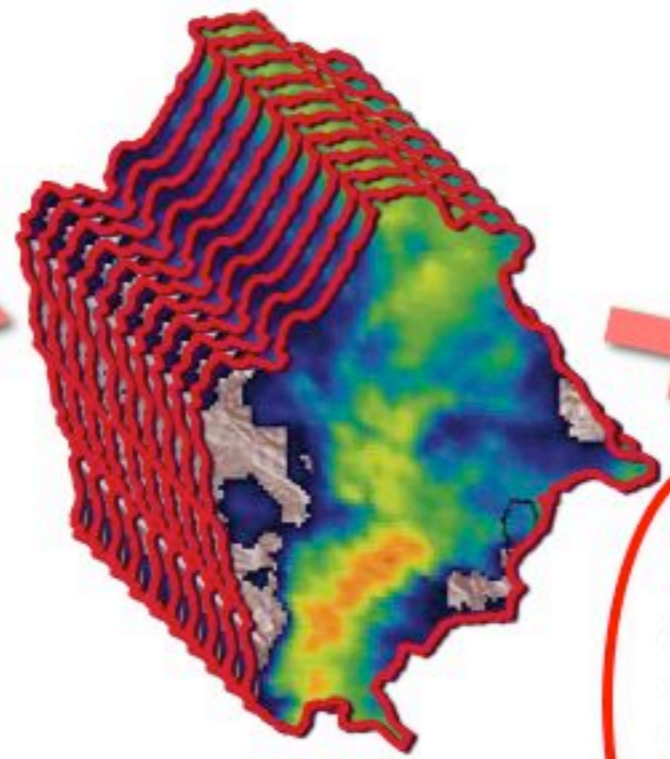


## FF & DF early warning systems

COSMO-LEPS  
Probabilistic Rainfall  
forecasts

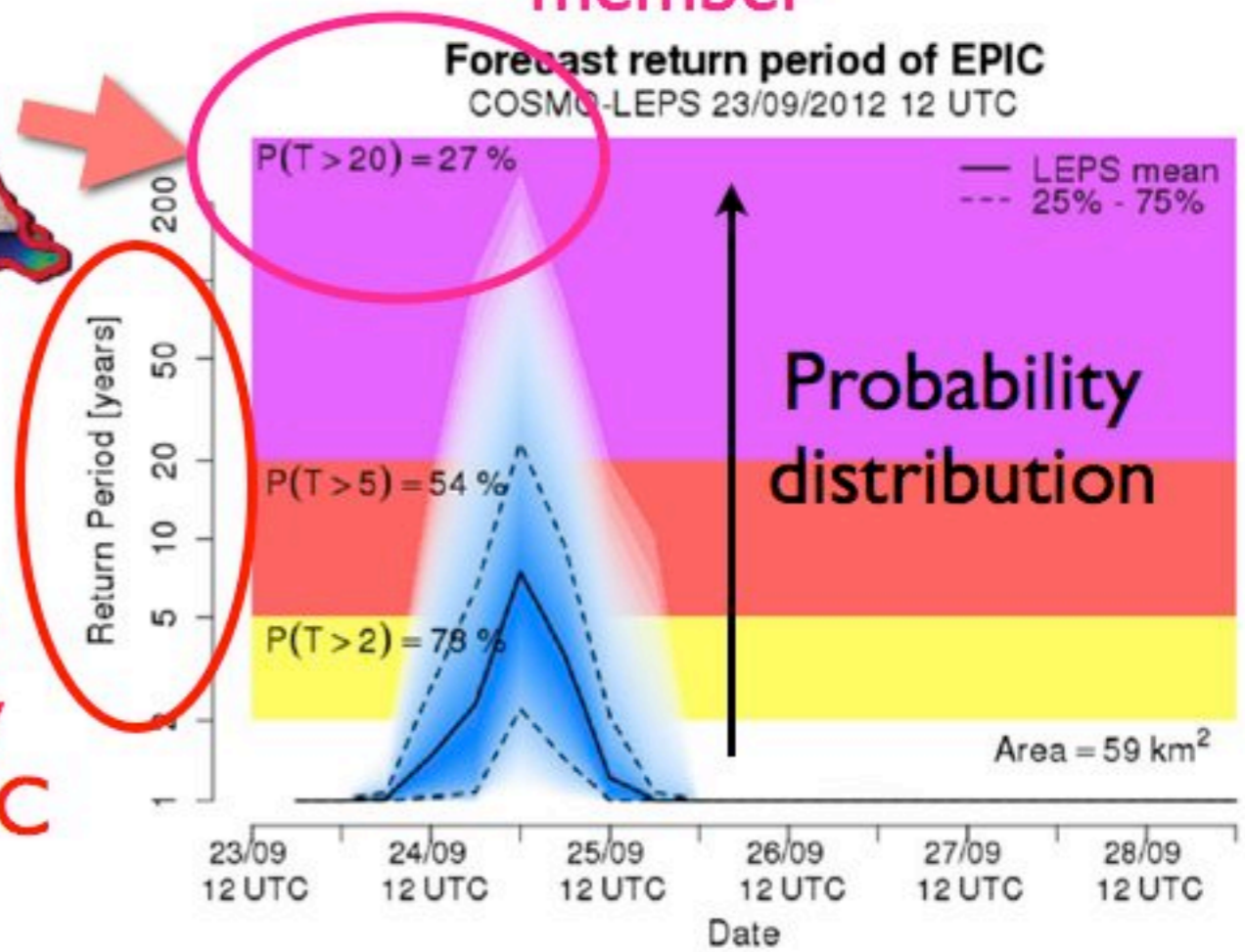


Probabilistic basin  
aggregated rainfall  
forecasts



Return Period of any member calculated by comparison against EPIC climatology

Warning code associated to the 75% percentile member



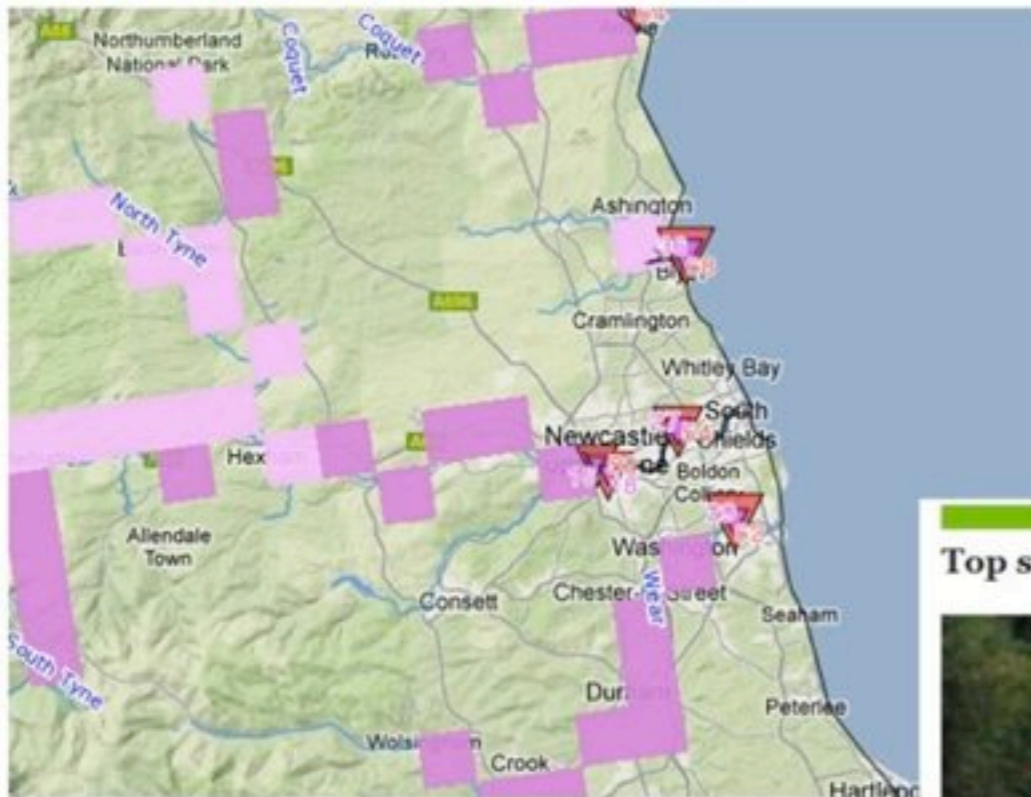




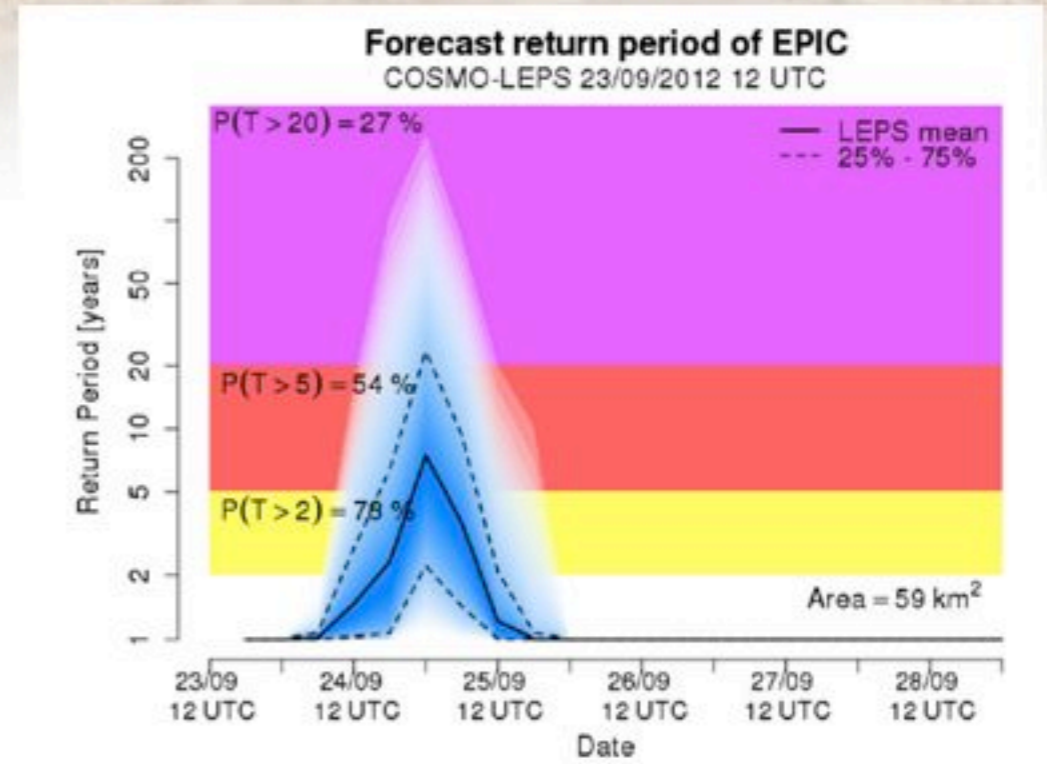
## FF & DF early warning systems

# Event of 2012-09-25 in Newcastle Upon Tyne (UK)

**EPIC 2012-09-23 12:00**



**Forecast 48h  
in advance**



### Top story



### Floods hit 300 homes in north England

26 Sep 2012: River defences under pressure in downpours, while fishing village is left covered in sea foam

### Most recent

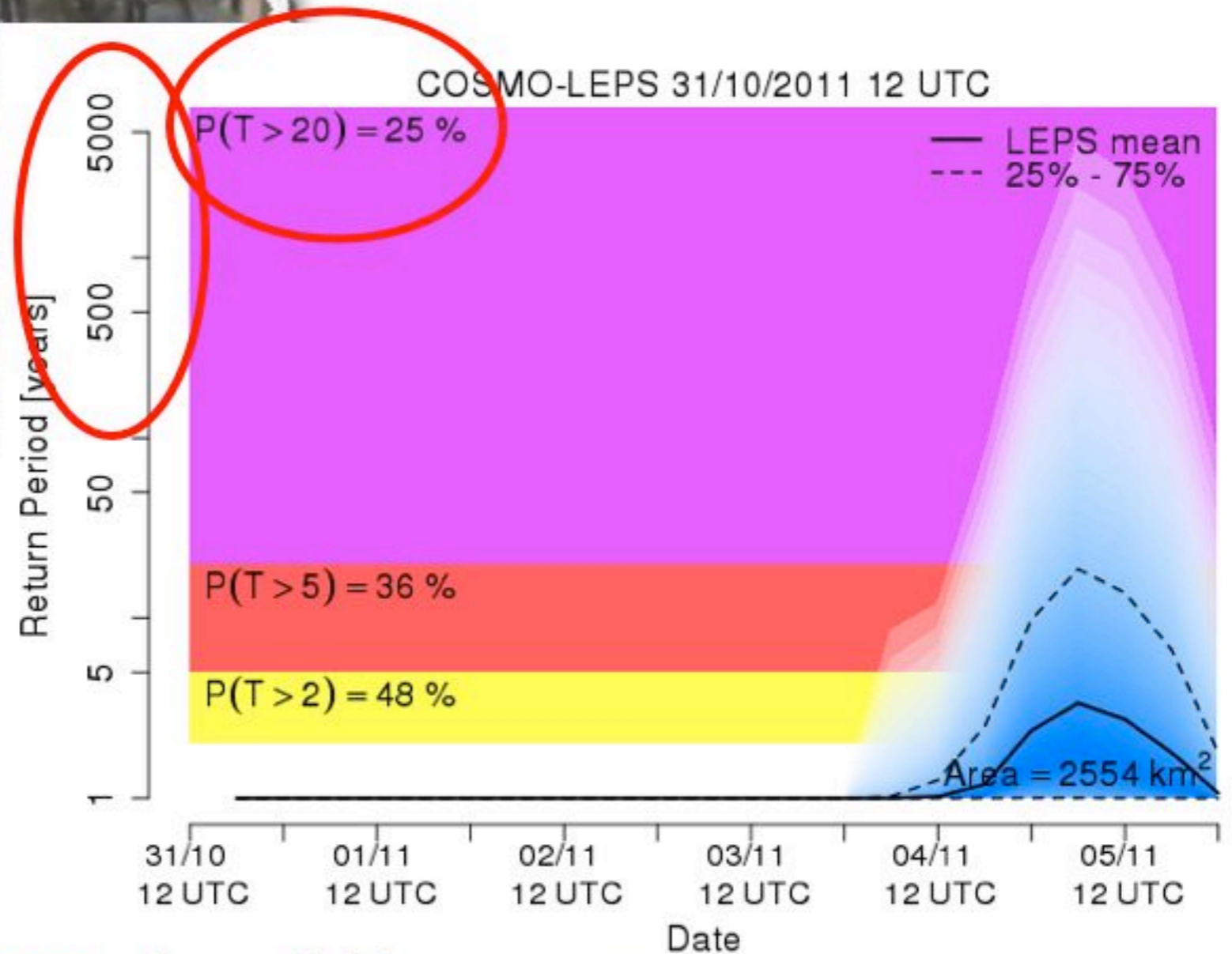


### Looters of flooded shop condemned by police

26 Sep 2012: Newcastle upon Tyne cycle shop targeted as swollen rivers cause havoc in northern England



# Genova (Italia) 4/11/2011



**4 days** ahead Forecast



# Genova (Italia) 4/11/2011



European Commission  
**Joint Research Centre**  
 Institute for Environment and Sustainability

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gmes EFAS

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Sánchez-Diezma Rafael Log out

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EFAS forecasting ? Forecasts available from 2009-05-01 to 2012-06-12 (12 UTC)

<< full screen opacity << 0.9 >> Print screenshot

search for location...

2011-11-02 (12 UTC) Disclaimer

SELECTED POINT - Close all

Report an error

COSMO-LEPS 02/11/2011 12 UTC

P(T > 20) = 21 % — LEPS mean  
 --- 25% - 75%

P(T > 5) = 31 %

P(T > 2) = 42 %

Return Period [years]

Area = 148 km<sup>2</sup>

02/11 12 UTC 03/11 12 UTC 04/11 12 UTC 05/11 12 UTC 06/11 12 UTC 07/11 12 UTC

Date

2011-11-02 12 UTC

Select layers

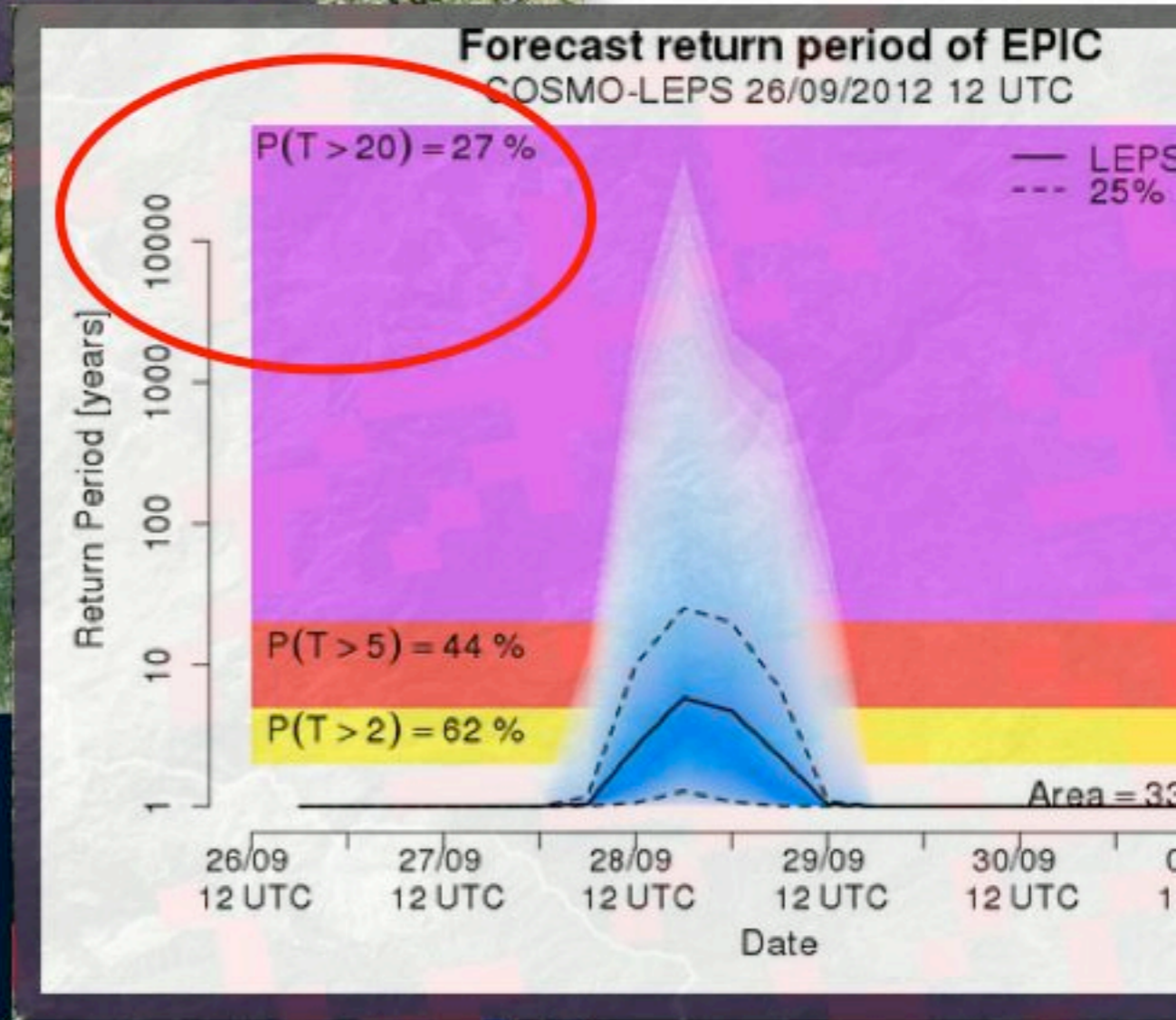
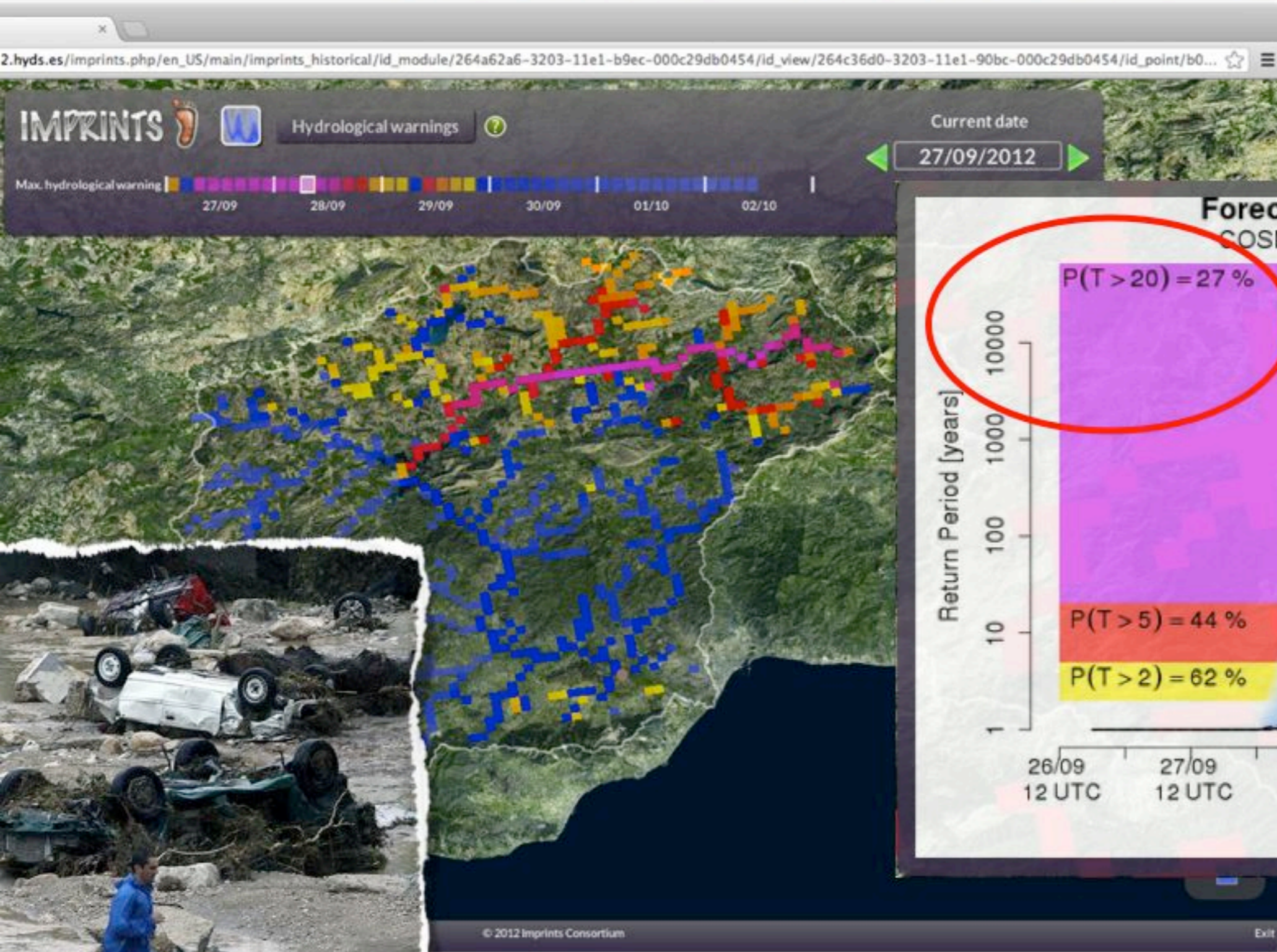
- 2011-11-02 12 UTC
- Flood summary layers (0/10)
- Hydrological layers (0/7)
- Meteorological layers (0/7)
- Background layers (2/6)
- Flash flood layers (4/8) ?
- IMPRINTS testbeds ?
- No. COSMO Above Medium ?
- No. COSMO Above High ?
- No. COSMO Above Severe ?
- Medium alert - T>2 years ?
- High alert - T>5 years ?
- Severe alert - T>20 years ?
- EPIC above Medium ?

Les données du mapa son ©2012 GeoBasis-DE/BKG (©2009) Google, Tele Atlas 8.95386, 44.06759

**2 days ahead Forecast**



# Guadalhorce 28/09/2012



**36 hours ahead Forecast**



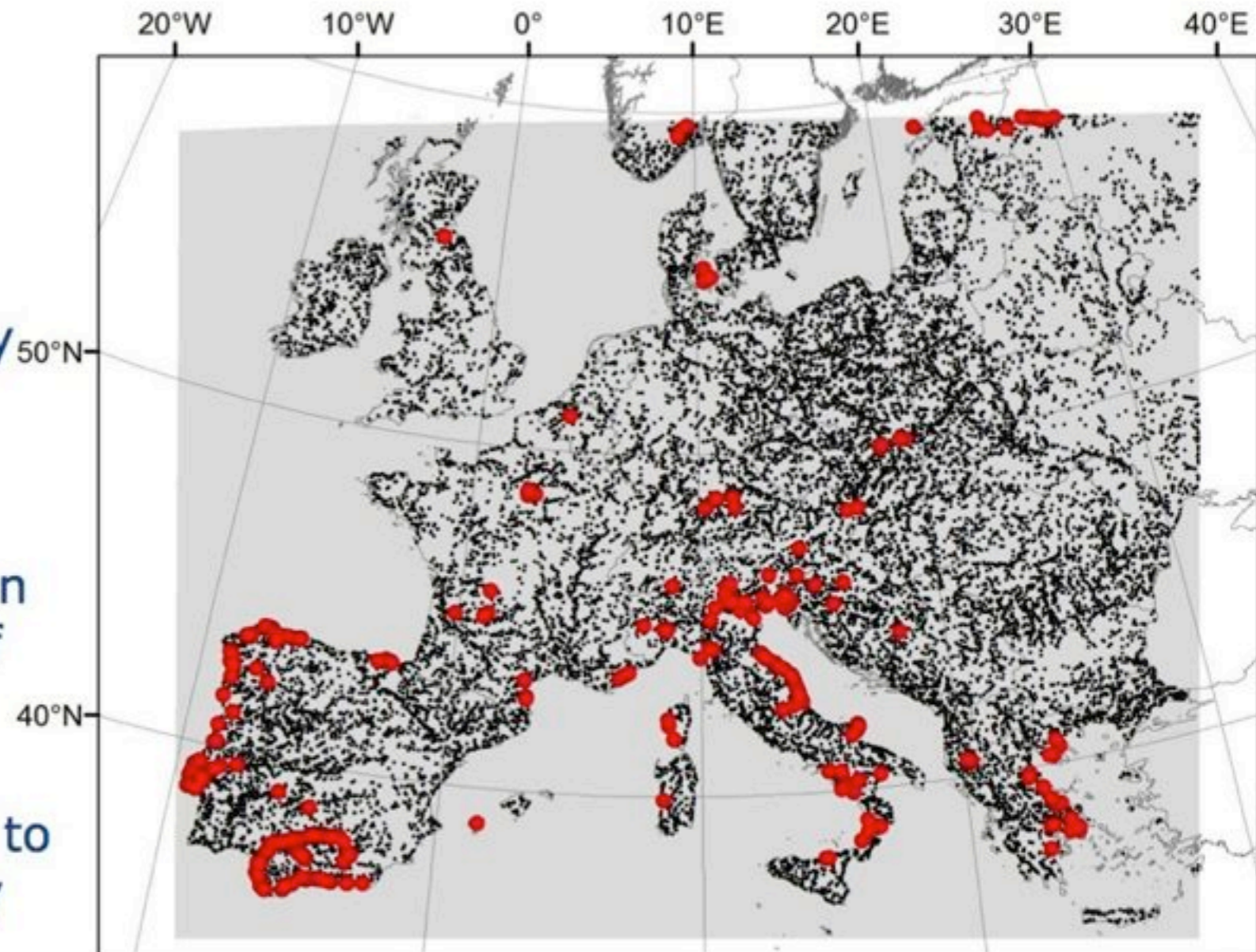
## Performance of EPIC

22 months data starting on 1/12/2009.

We derived an alert criterion for extreme events of 60% probability of exceeding the 5-year return period.

363 points above the alert criterion were clustered in 50 events, 42 of which were confirmed events.

Out of 8 false alarms, 3 were due to boundary issues and can be easily recognized and removed





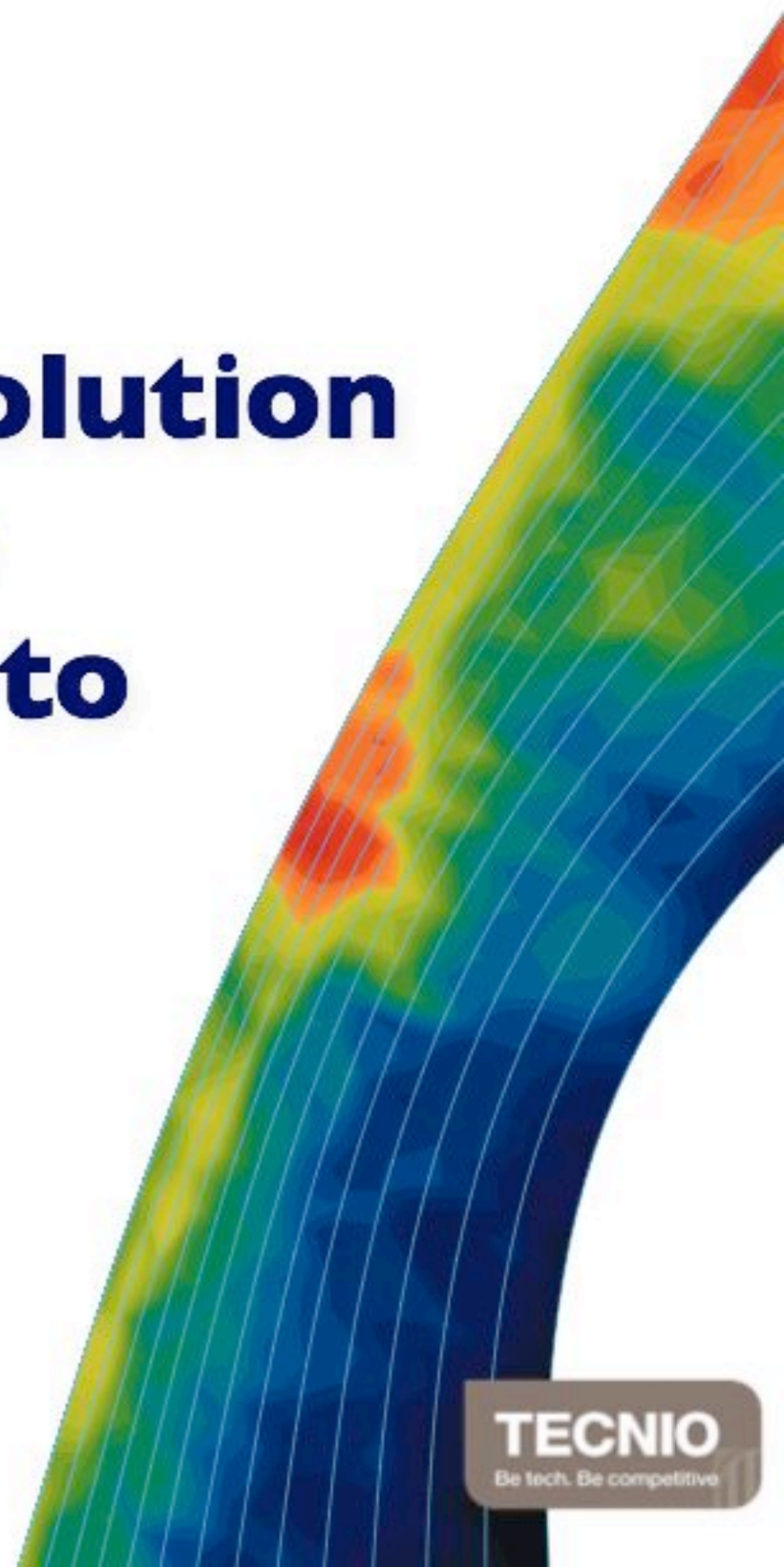


# HAREN



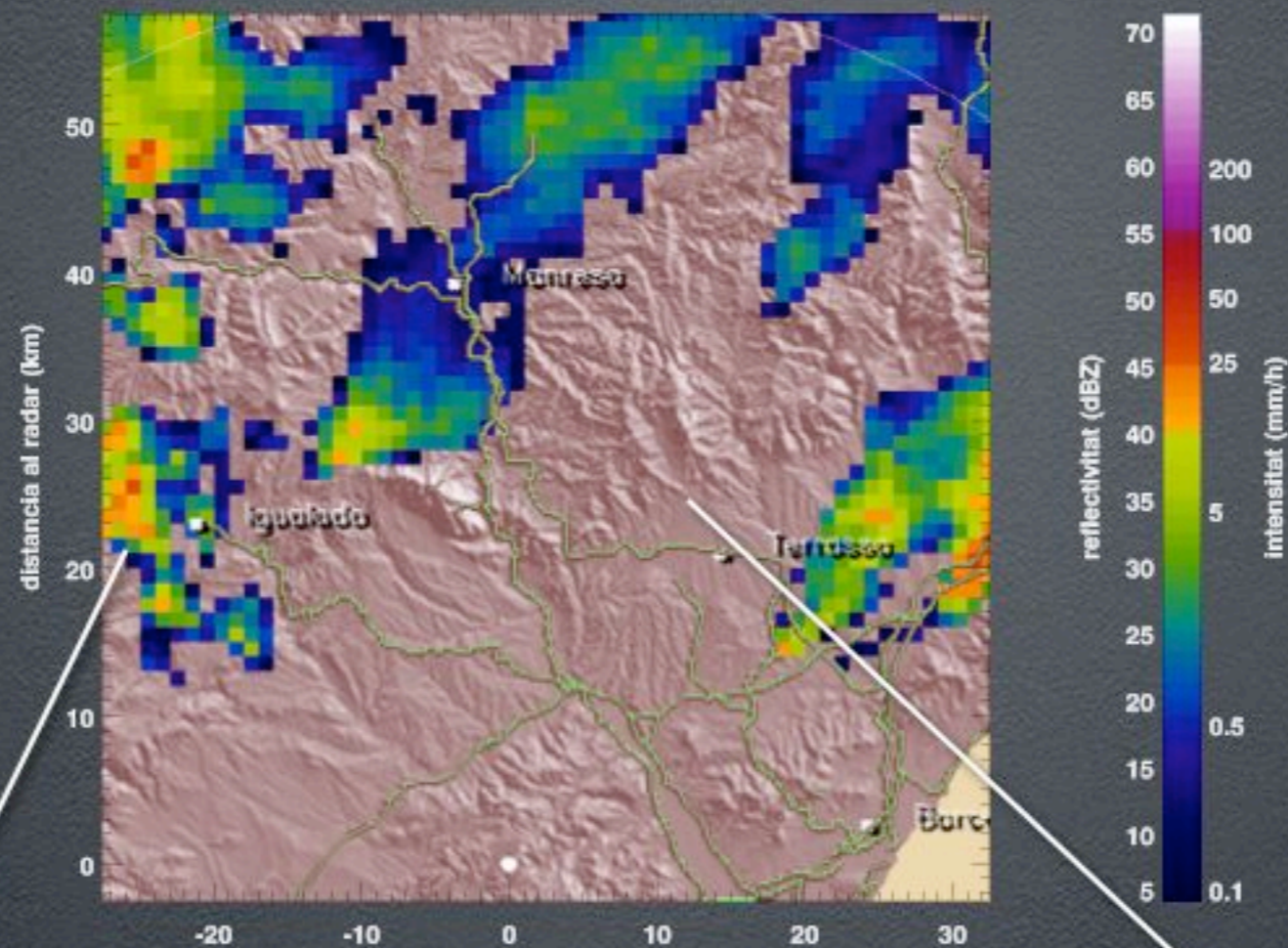
European  
Civil Protection

**Can we increase the resolution  
in time and space  
using radar data up to  
6h in advance?**



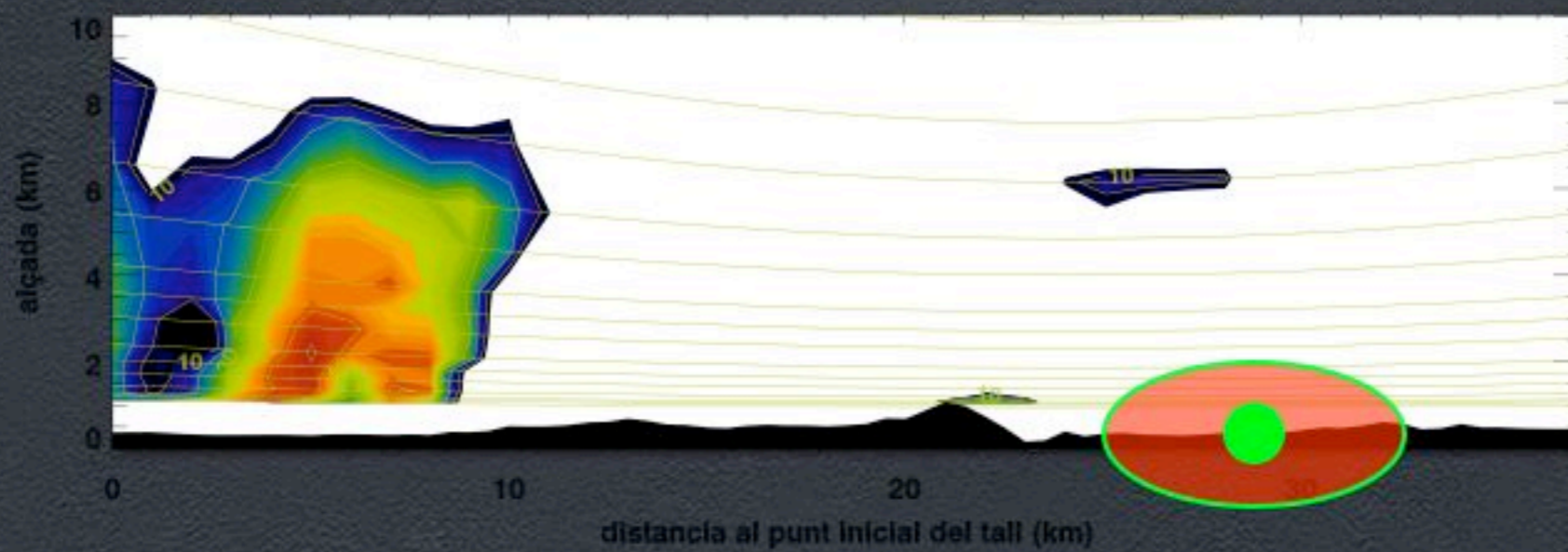
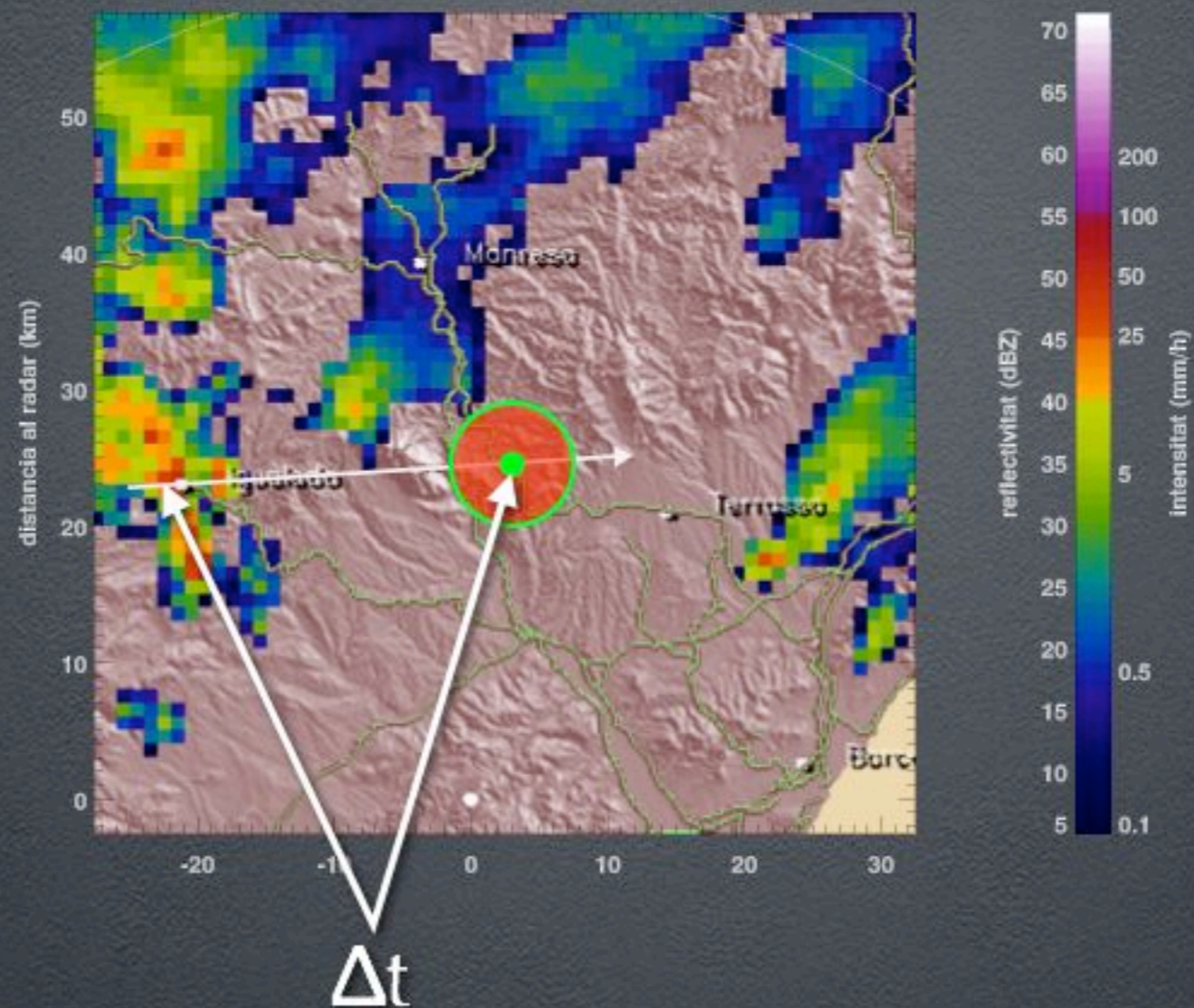


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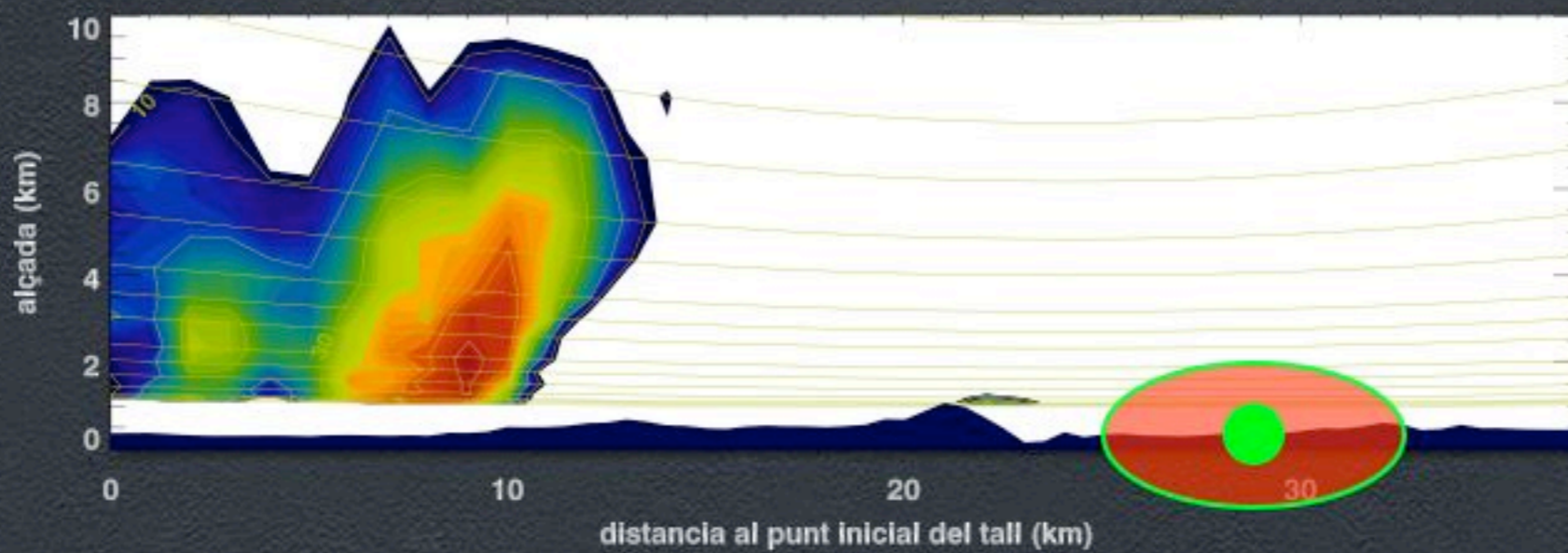
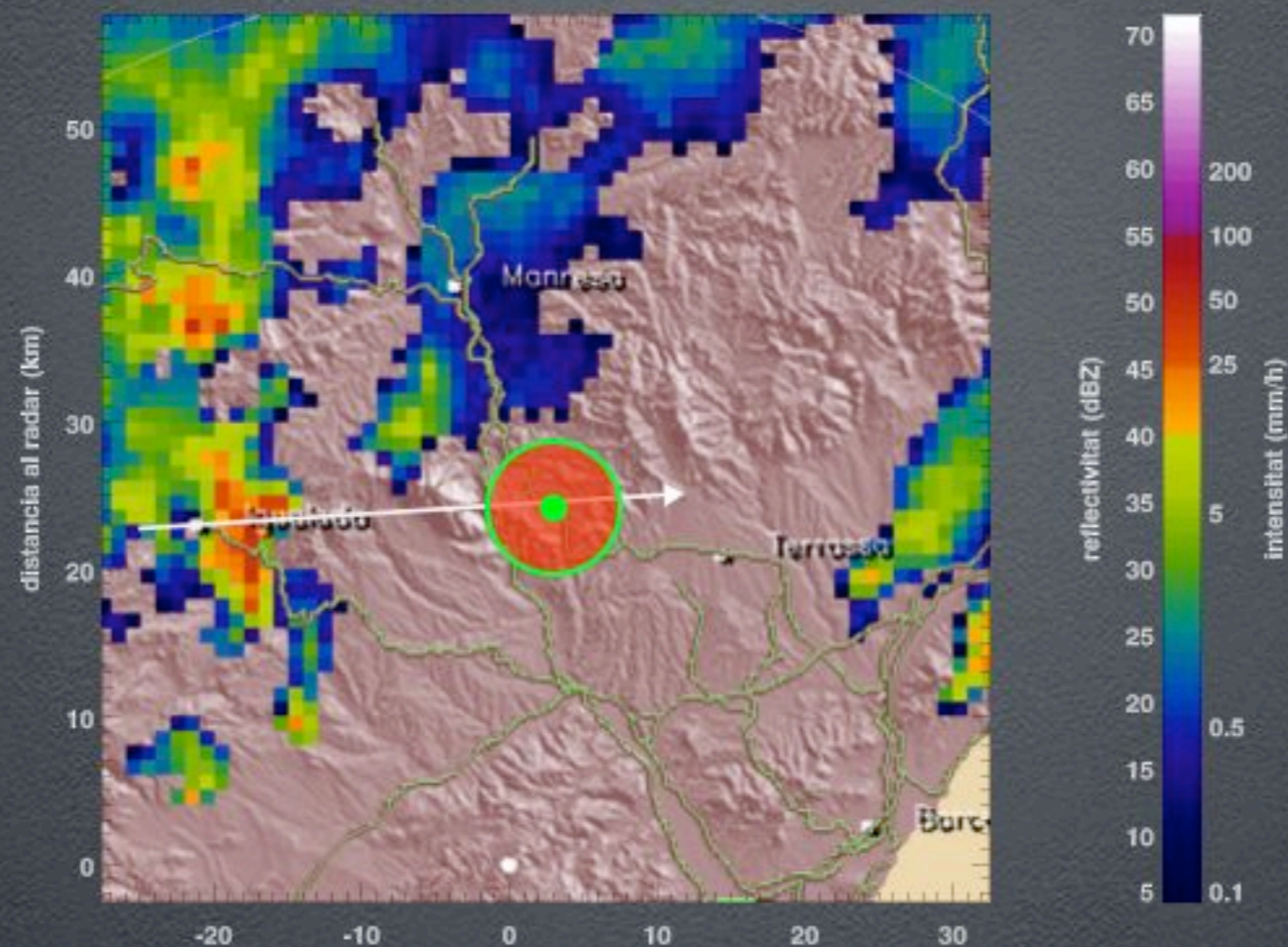


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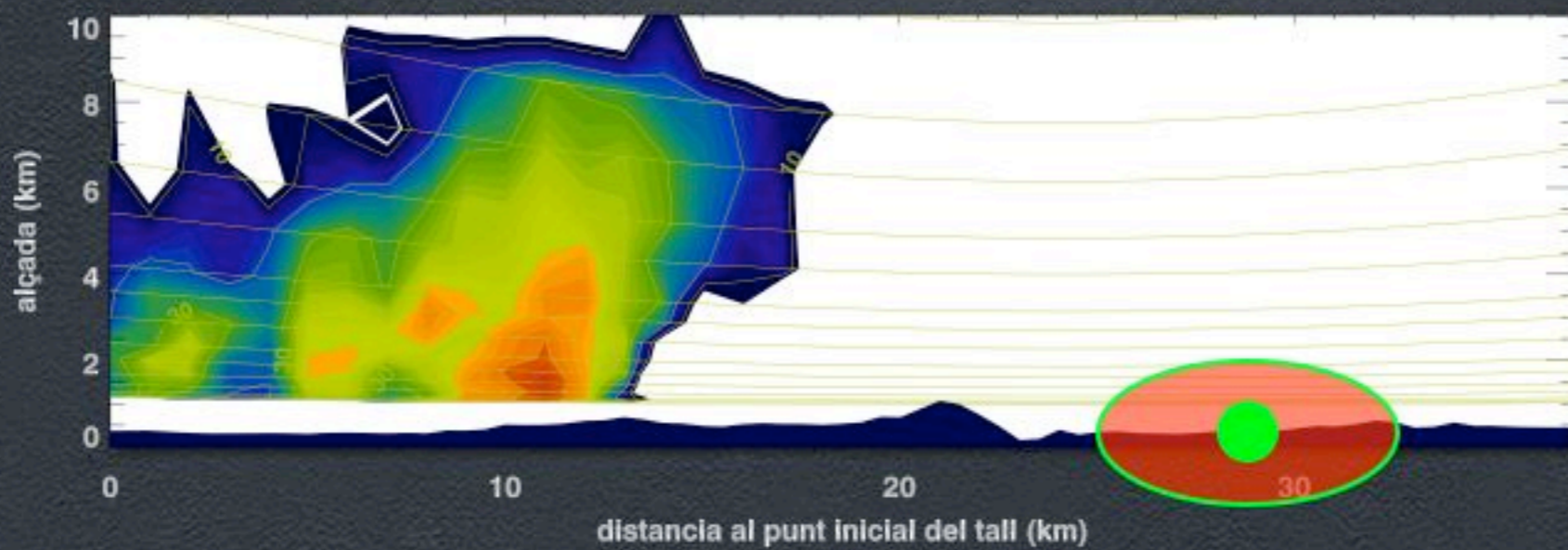
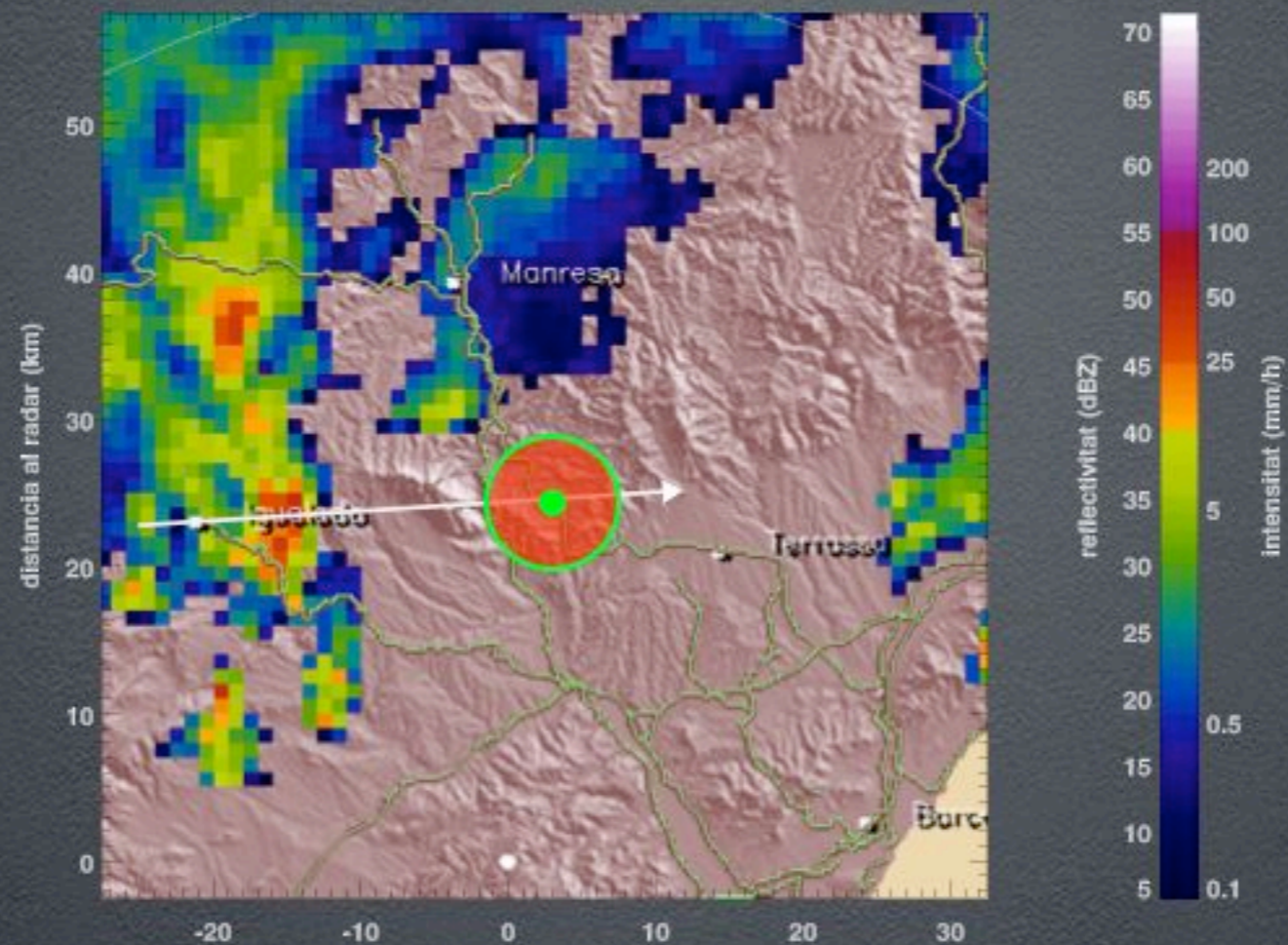


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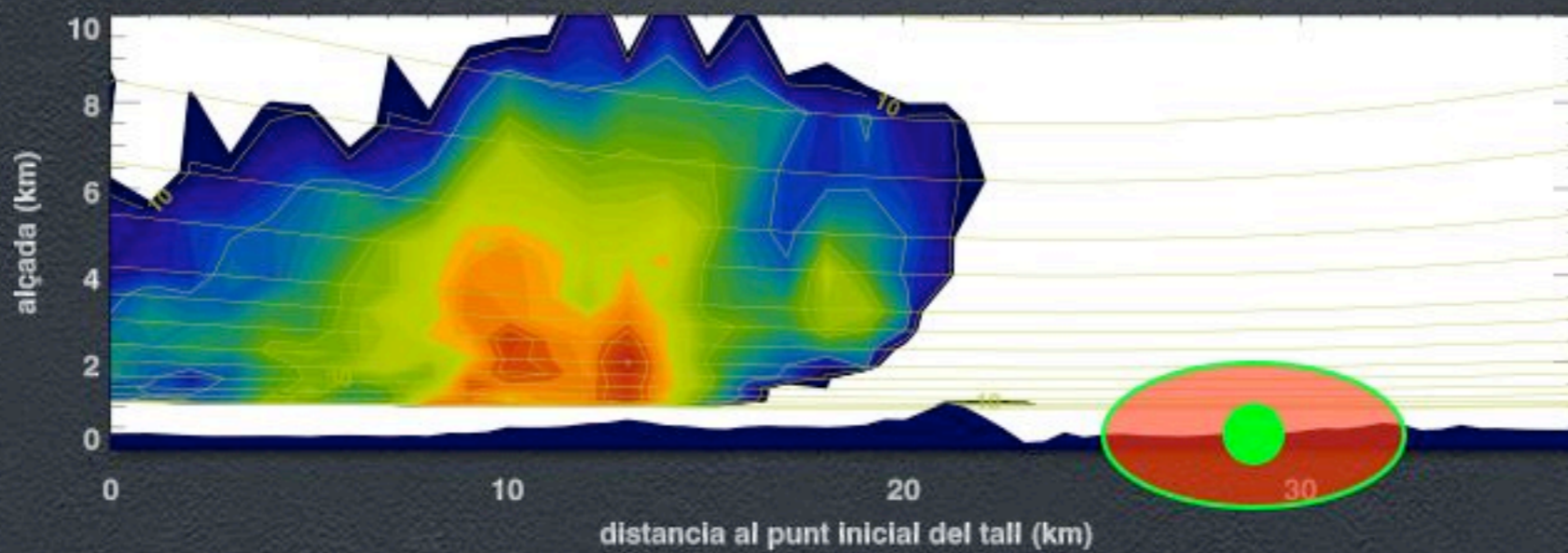
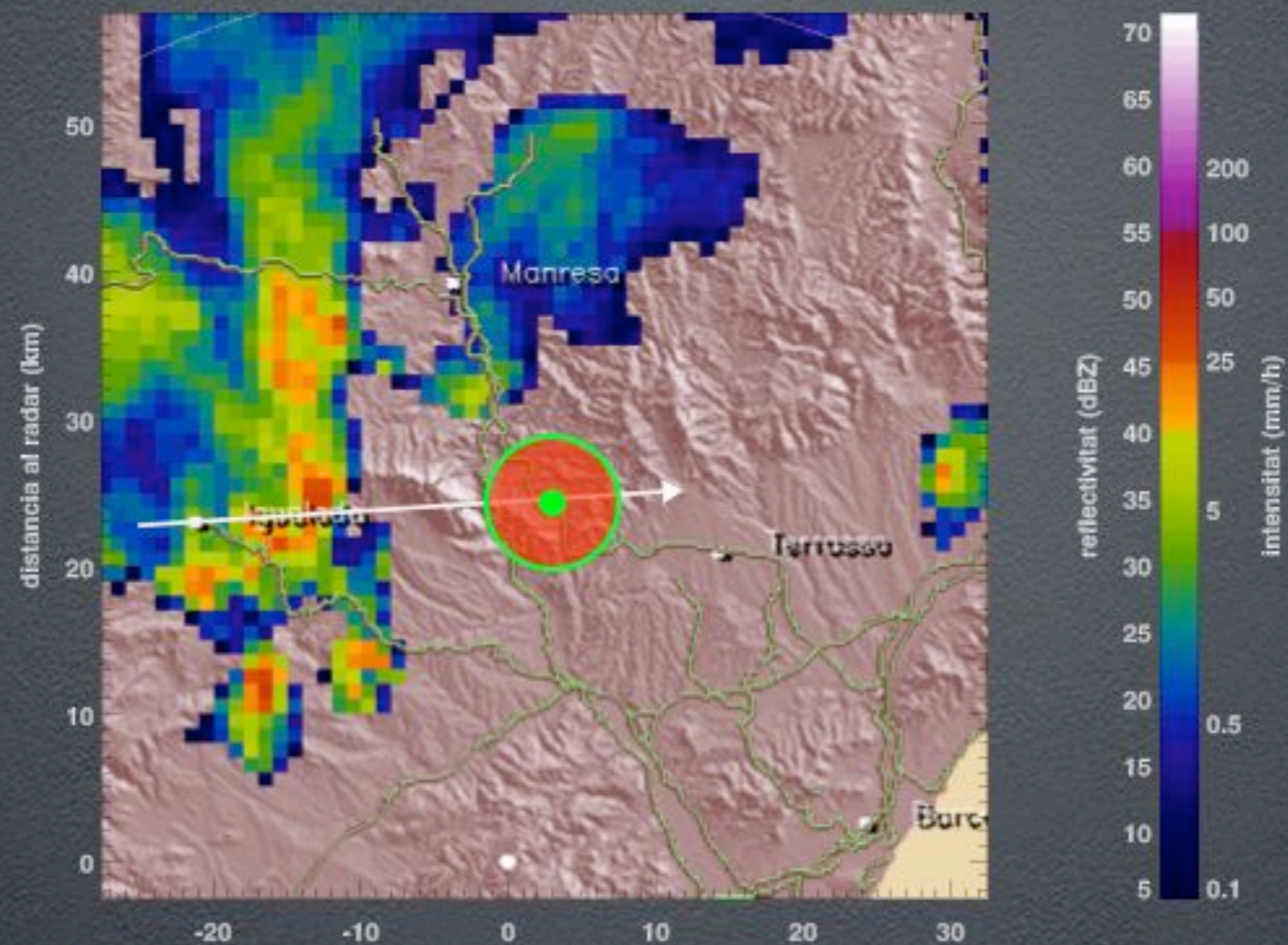


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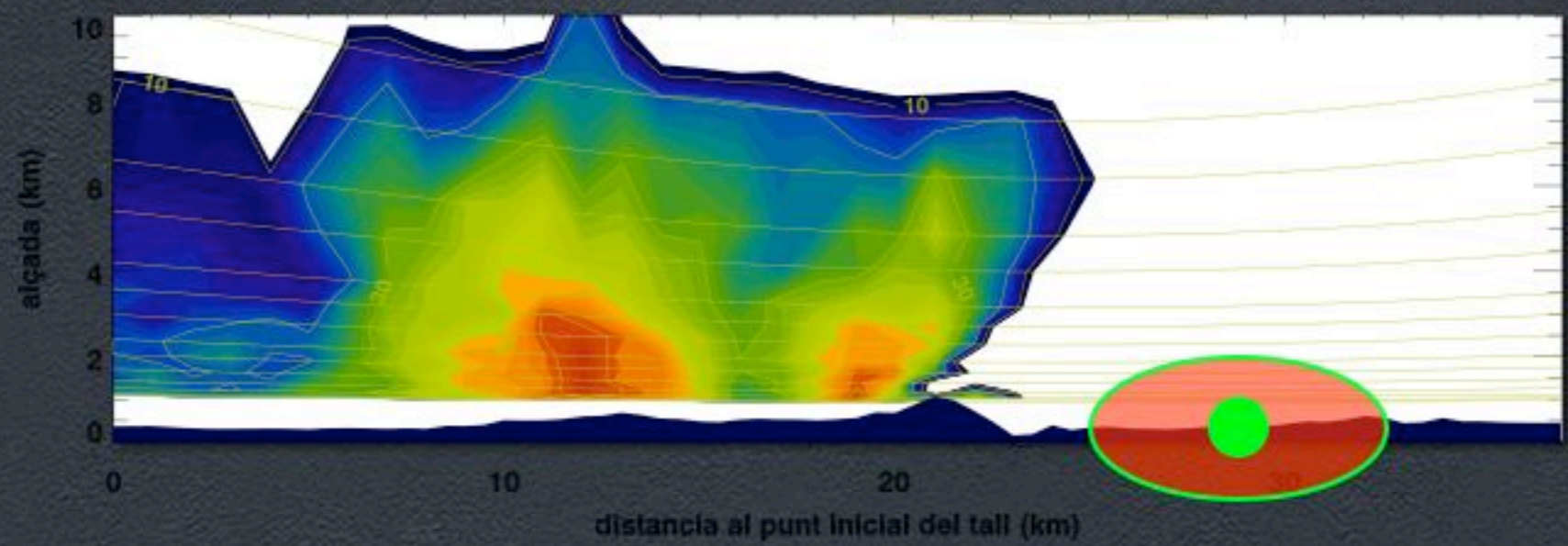
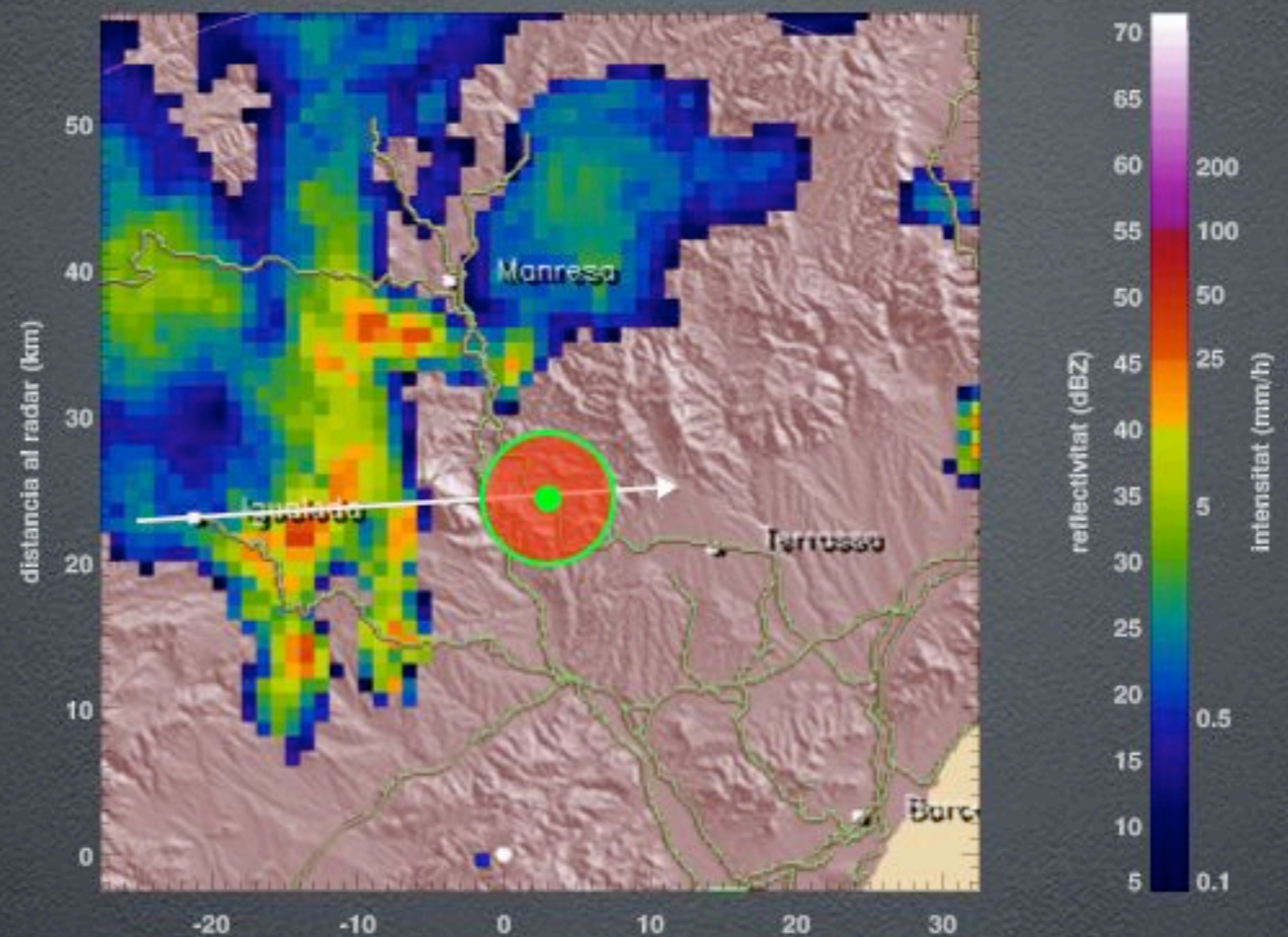


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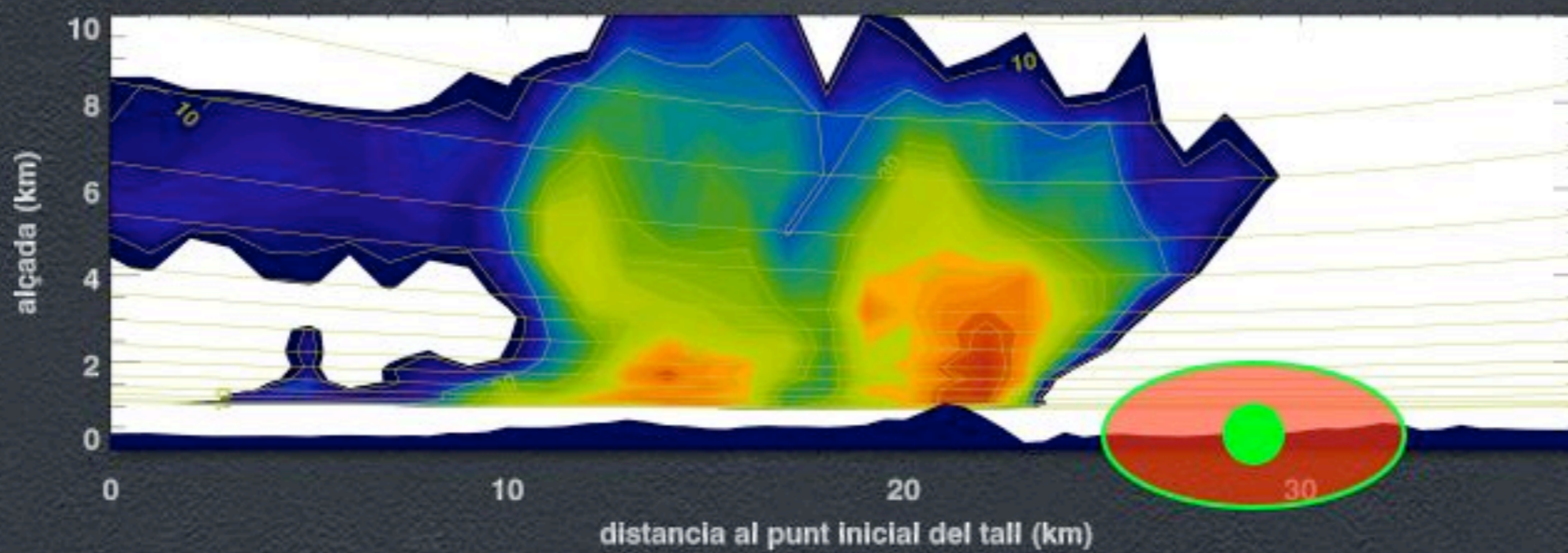
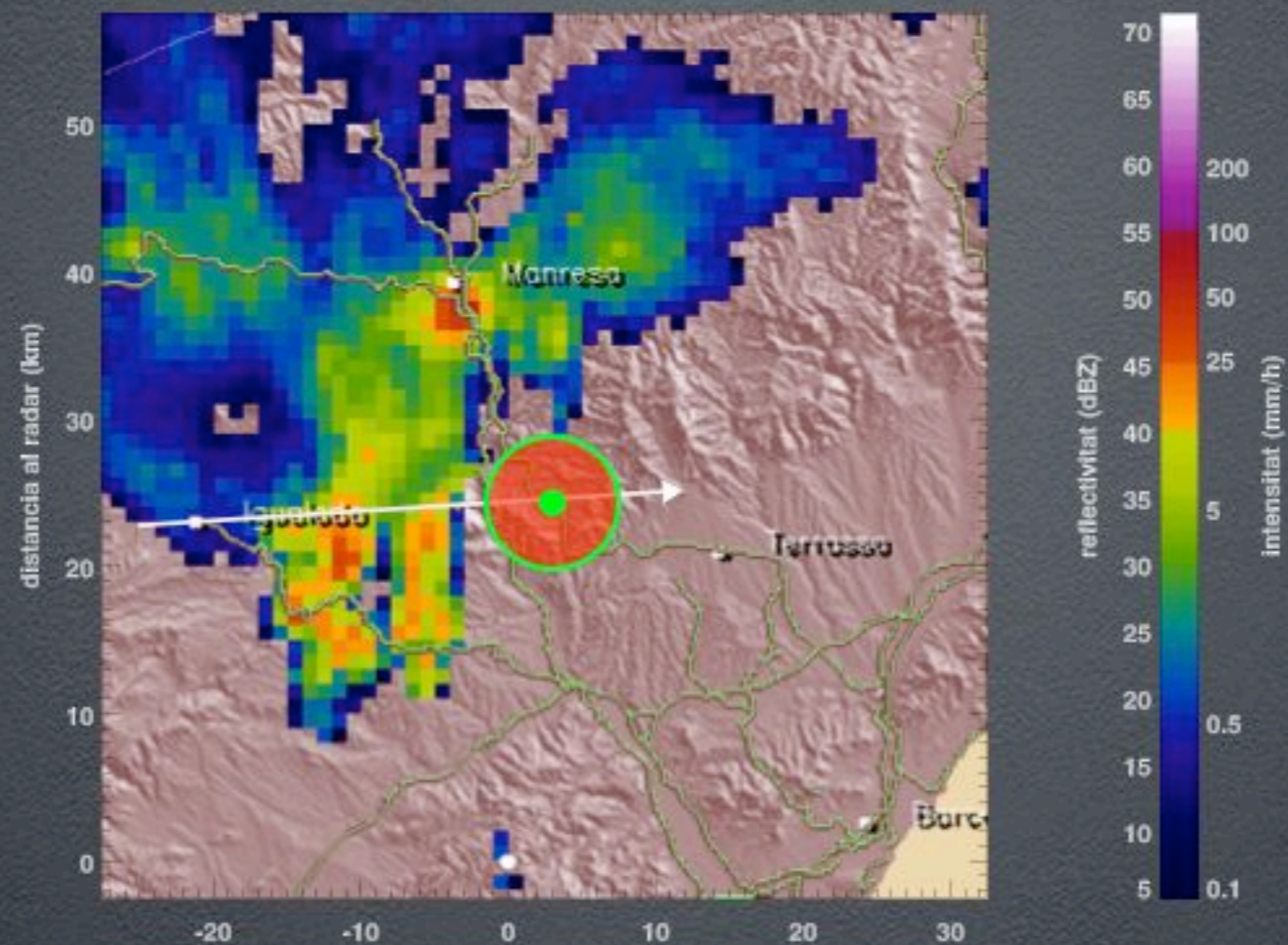


22:00



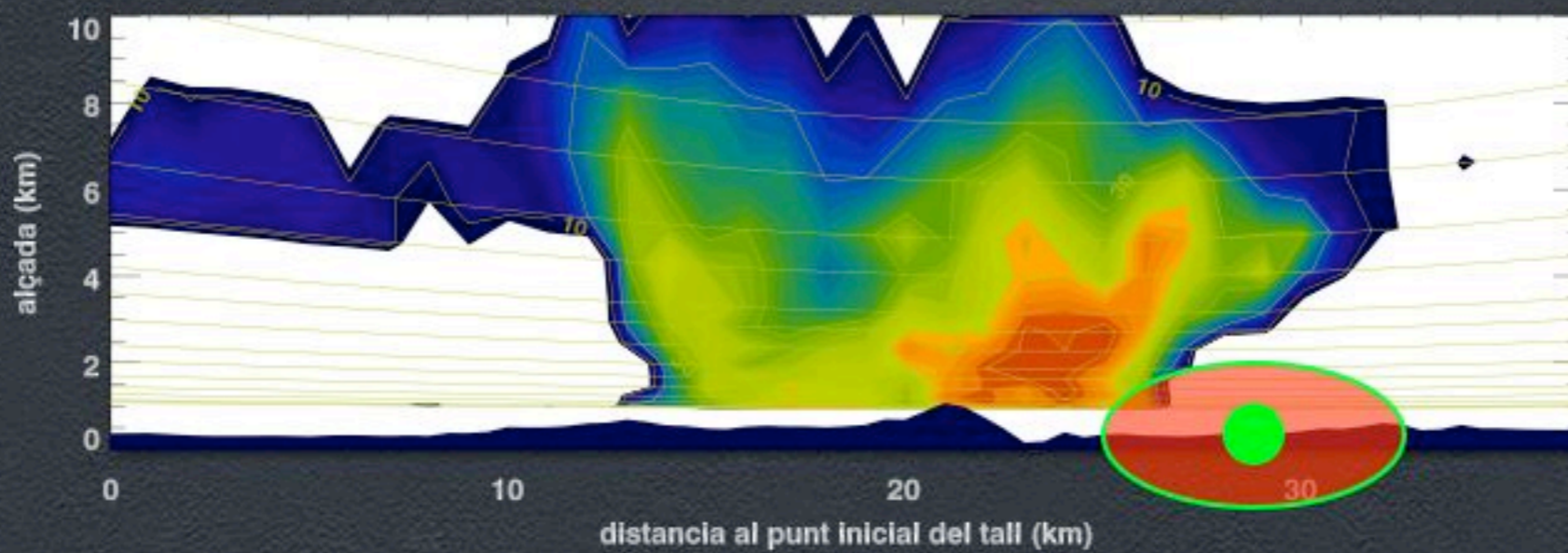
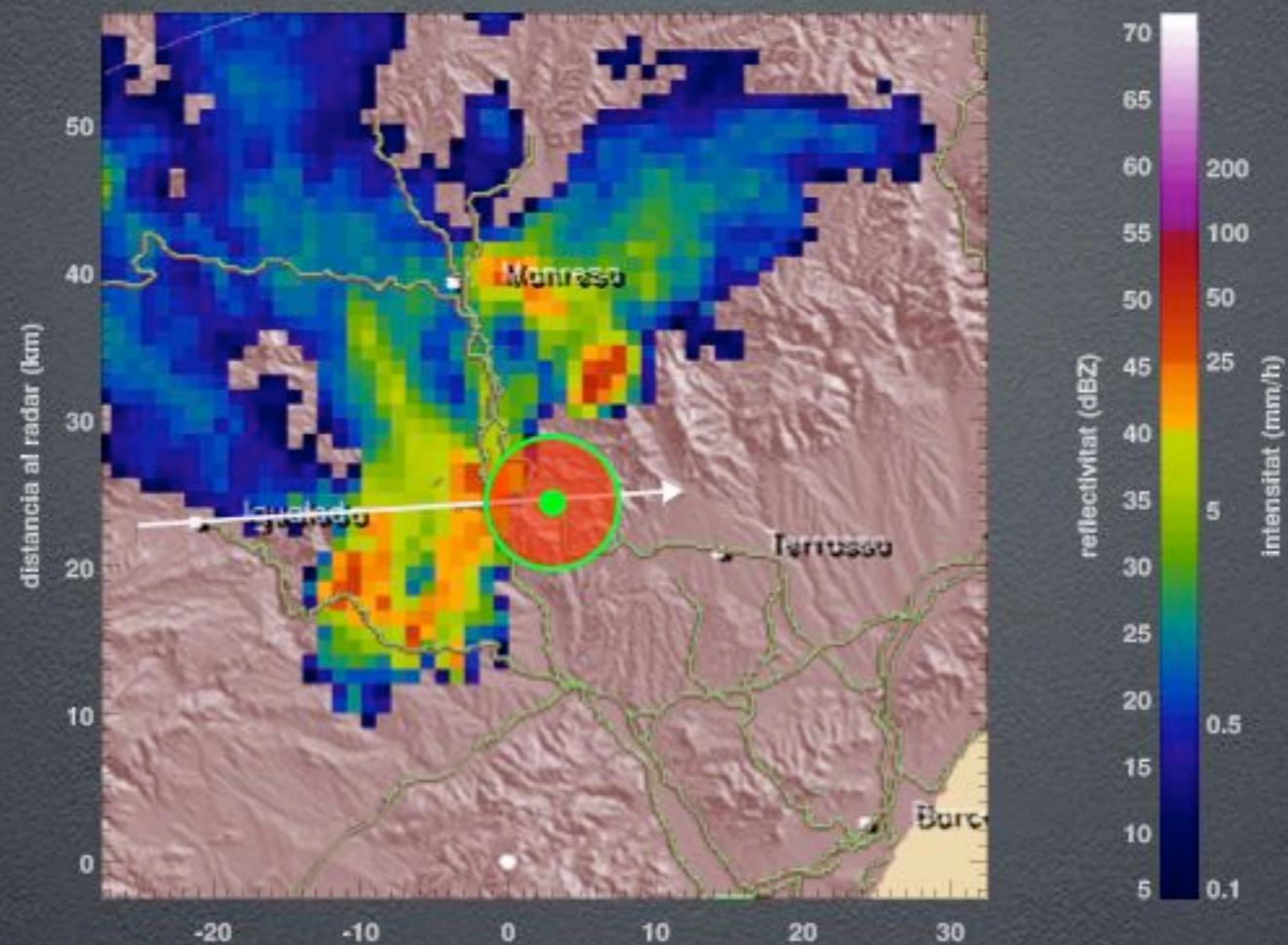


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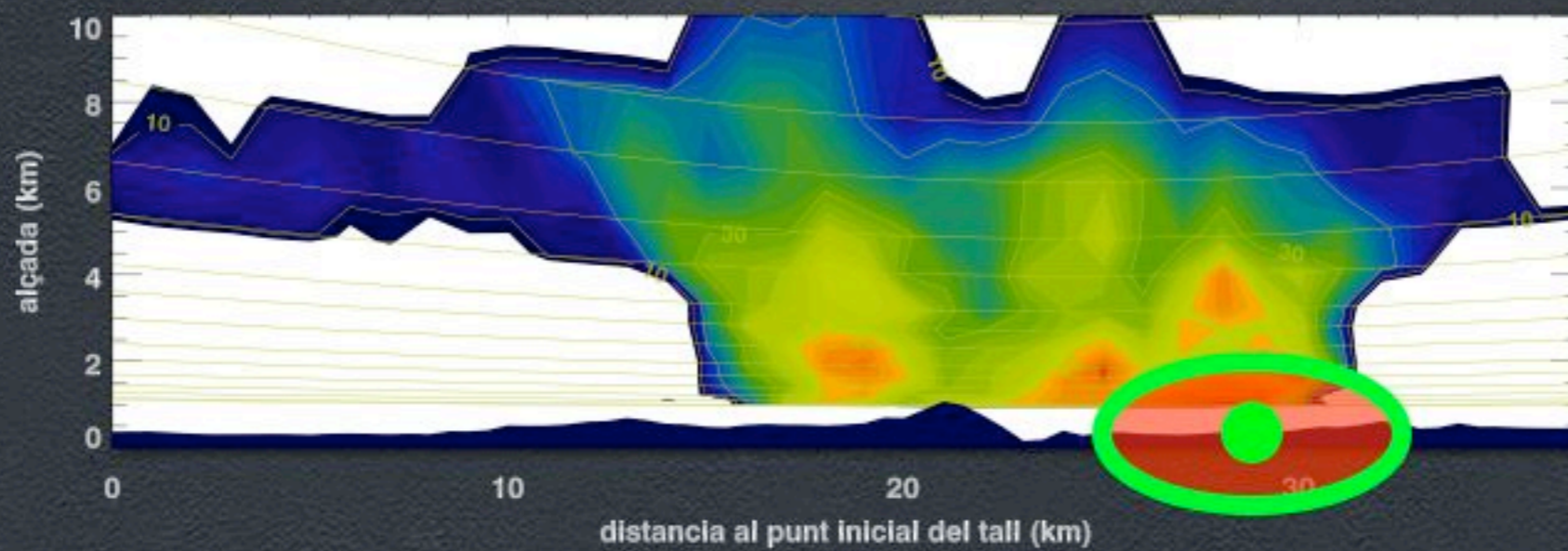
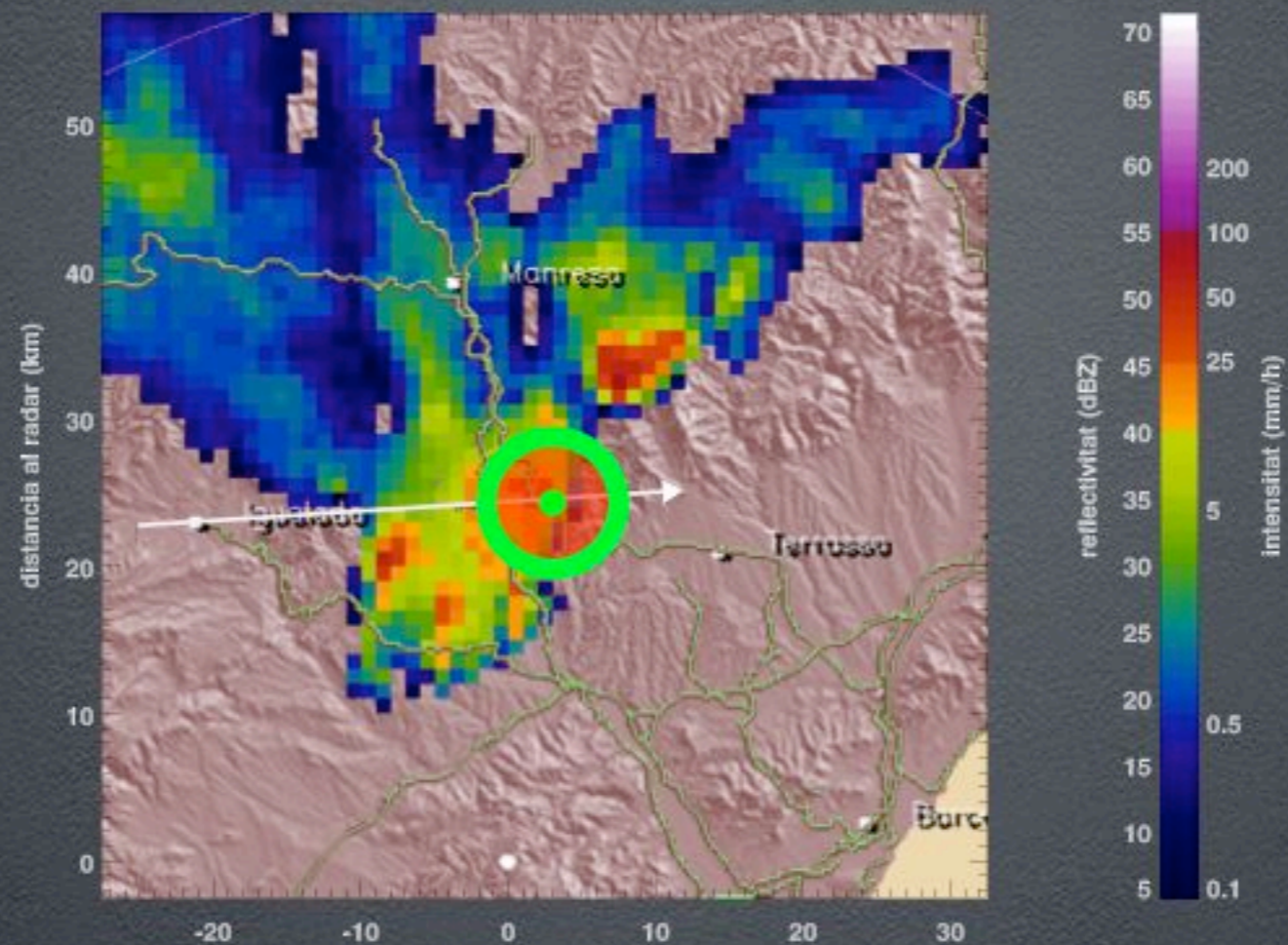


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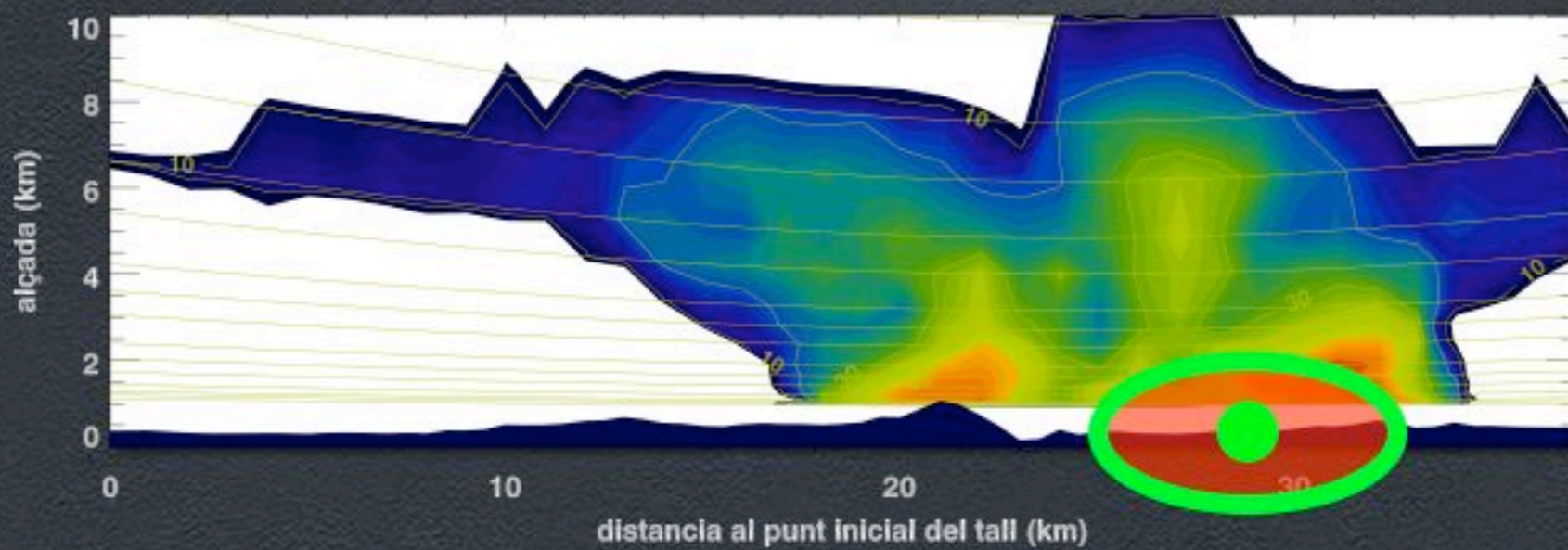
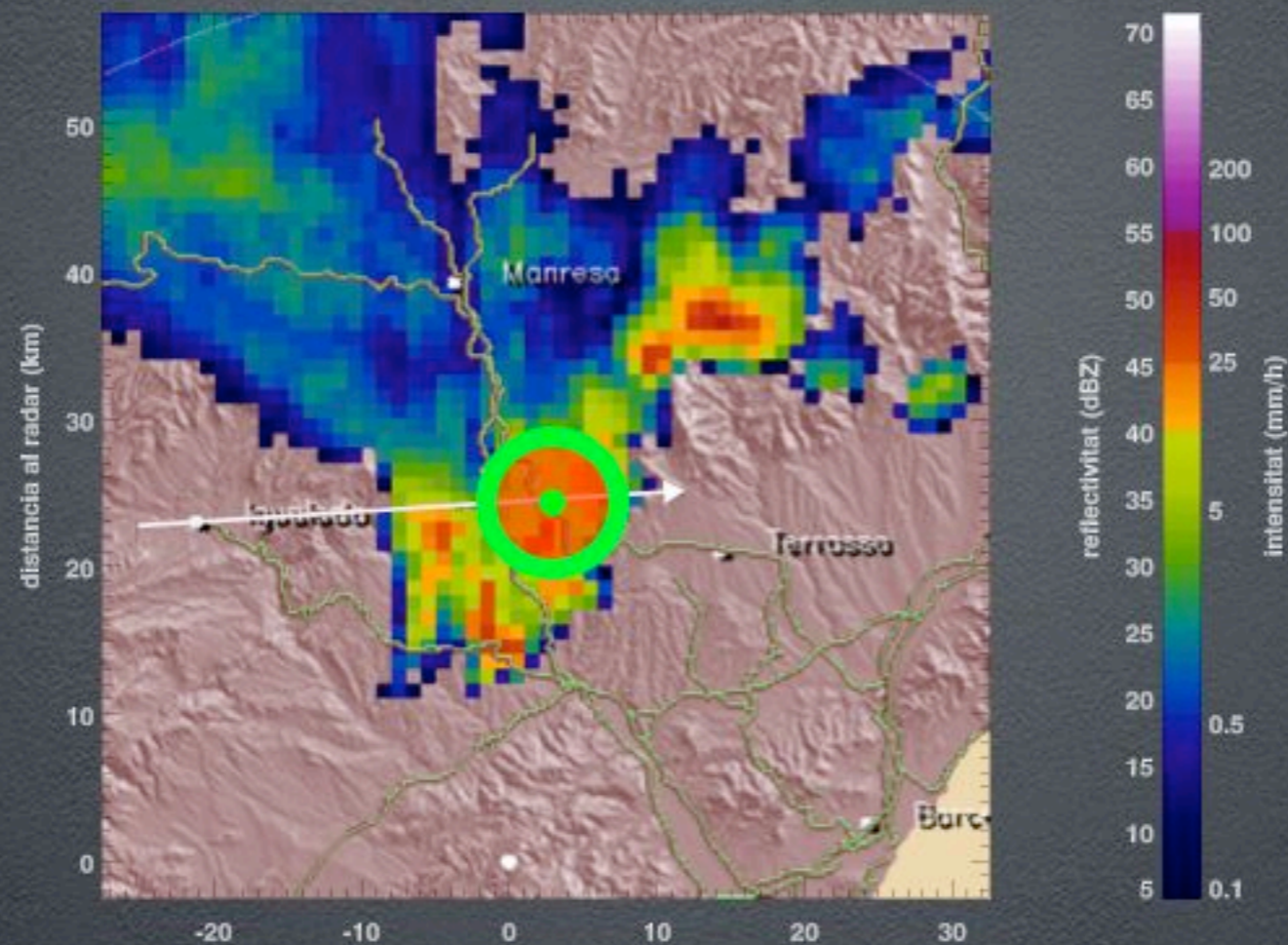


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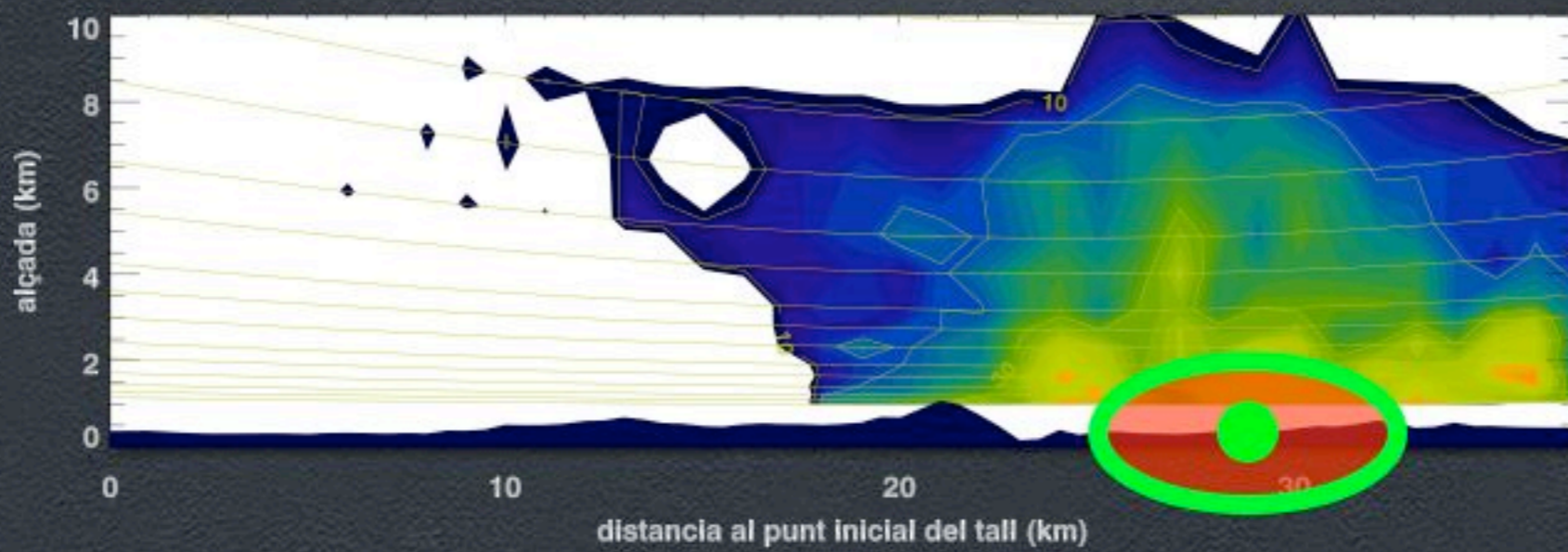
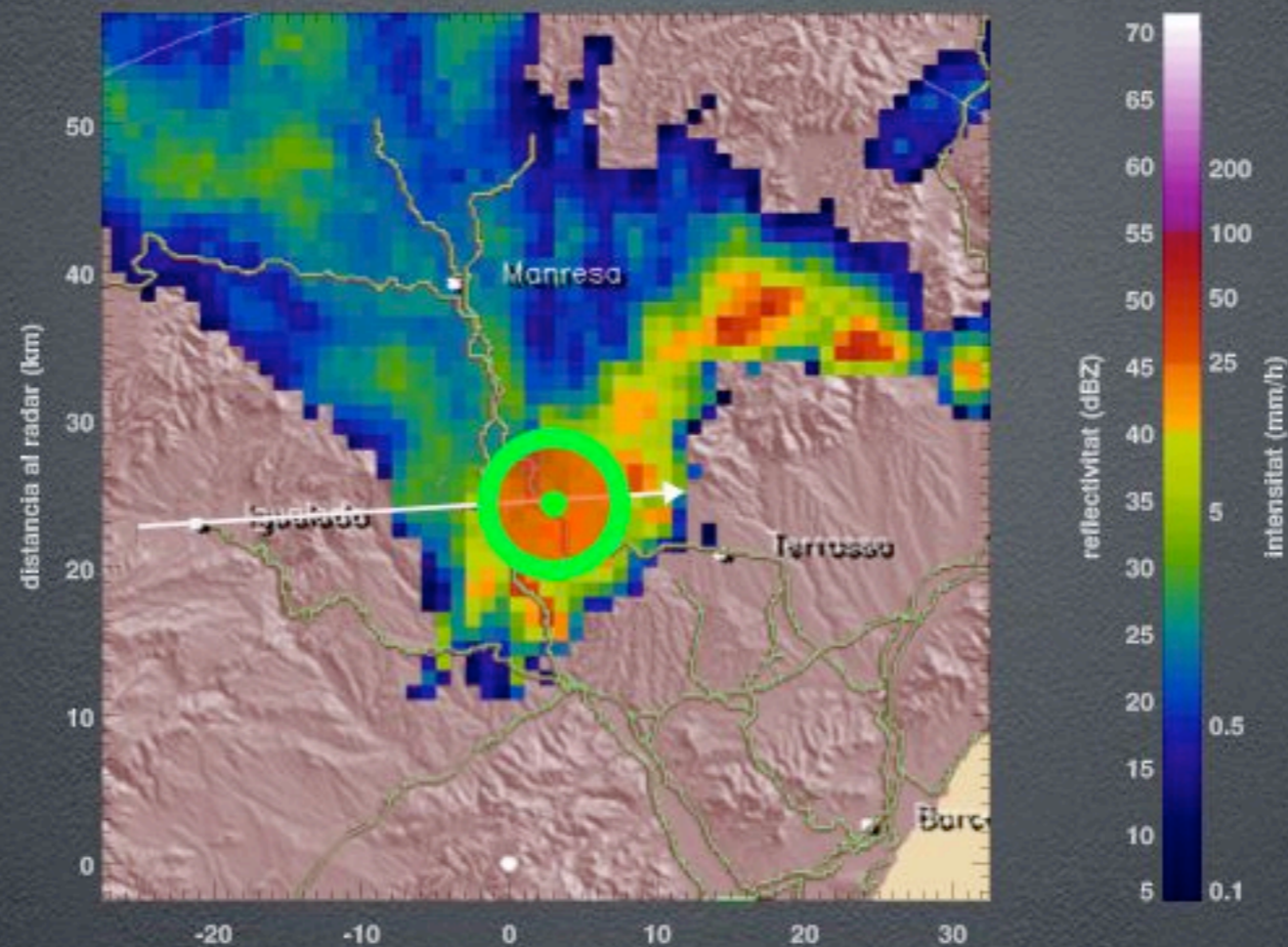


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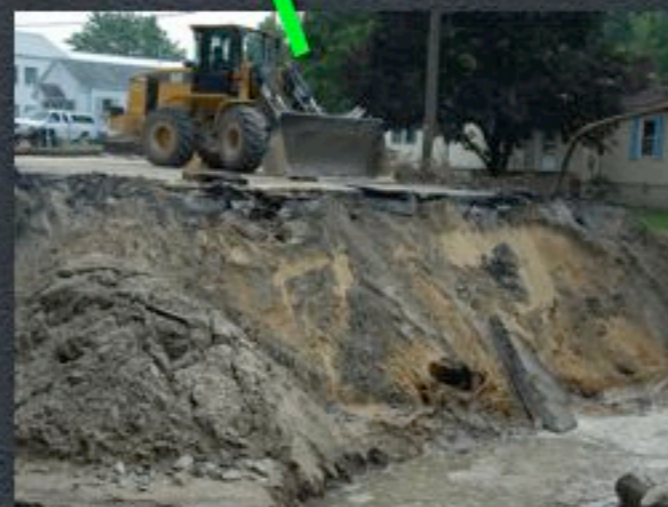
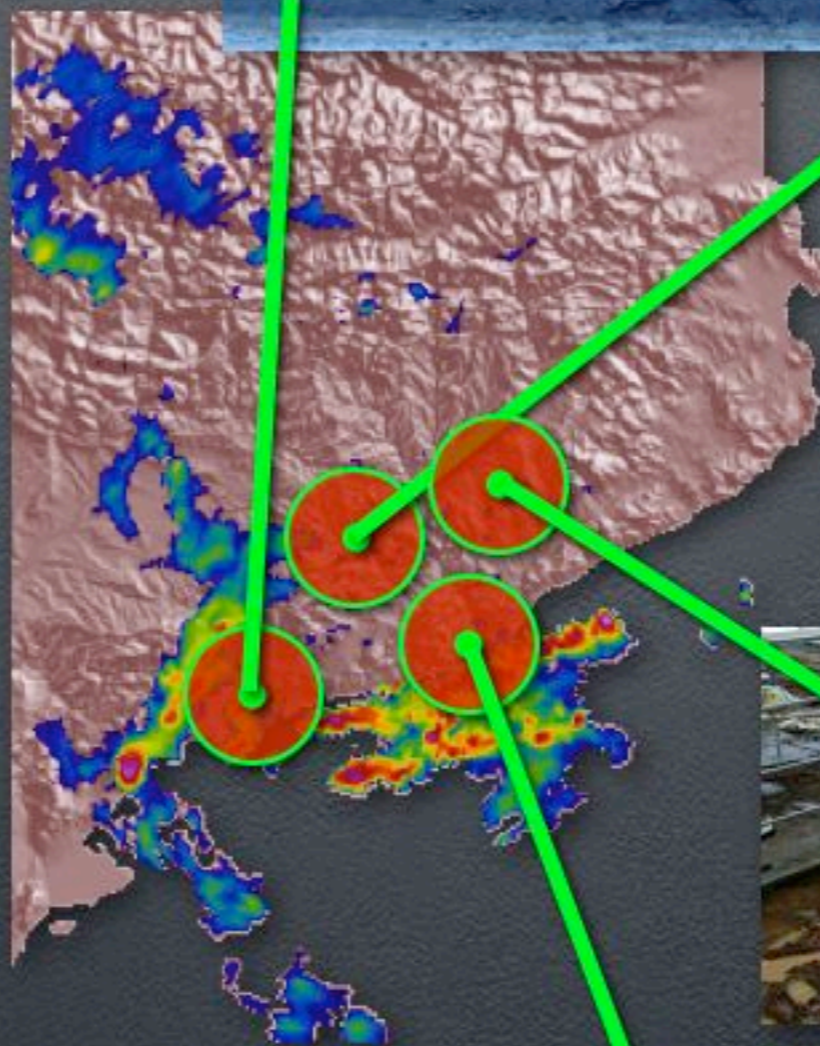


22:30





# Hazard identification based on rainfall forecasts





# EU radar mosaic

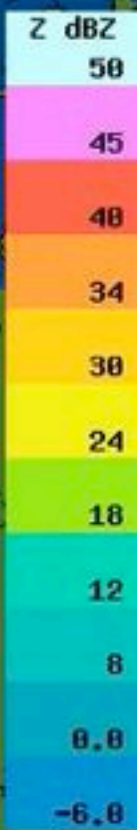
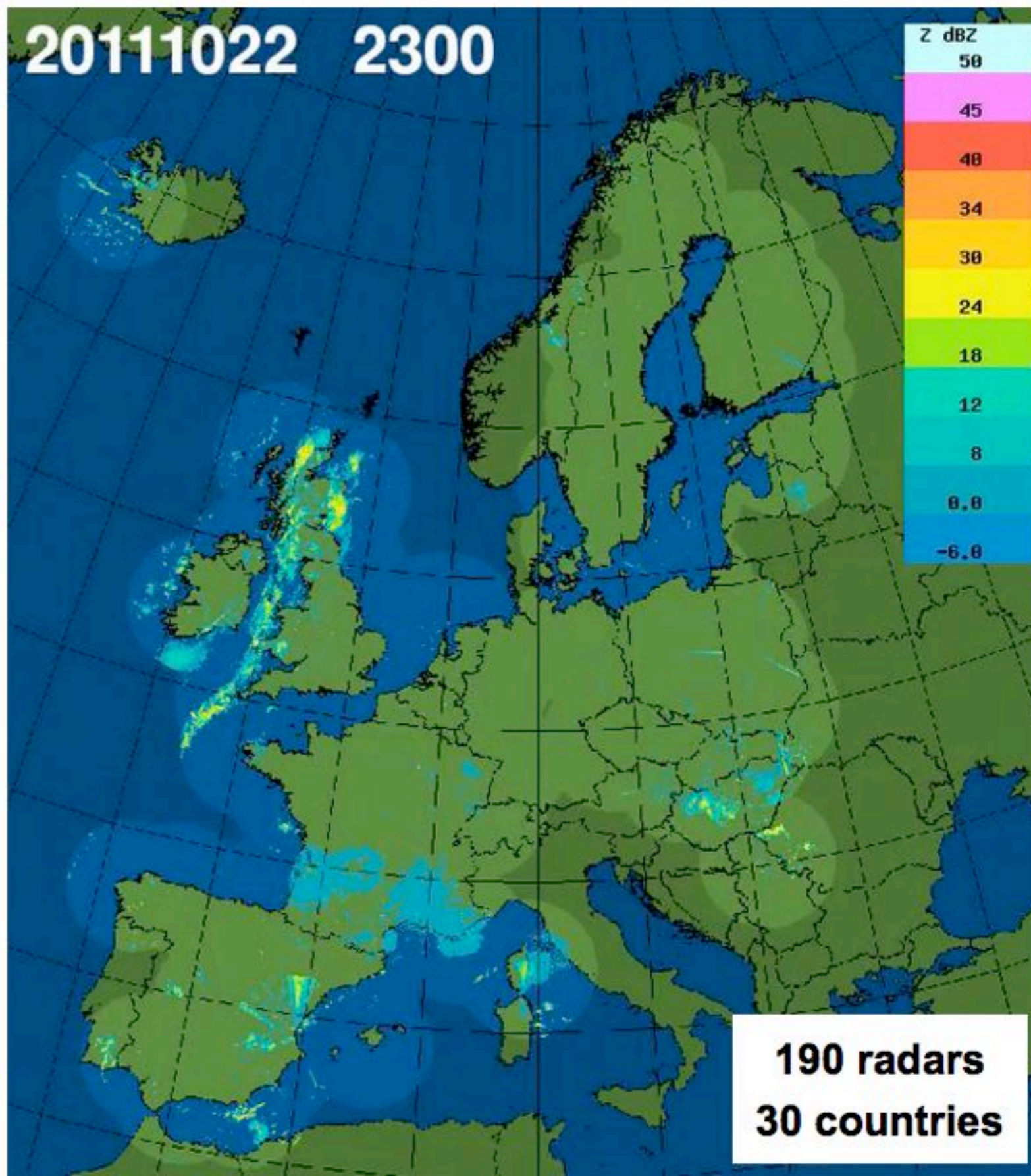


OPERA  
EIG EUMETNET PROGRAMME

## OPERA radar mosaic:

- Precipitation observations over Europe @2 km and every 15 minutes.
- Operationally produced since mid 2011.
- Nowcasting demonstration:  
**since June 2012**

20111022 2300



# HAREN

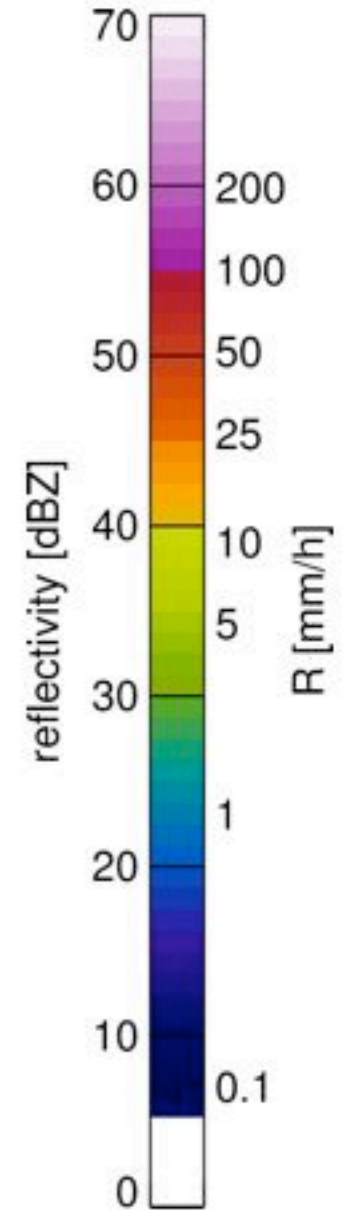
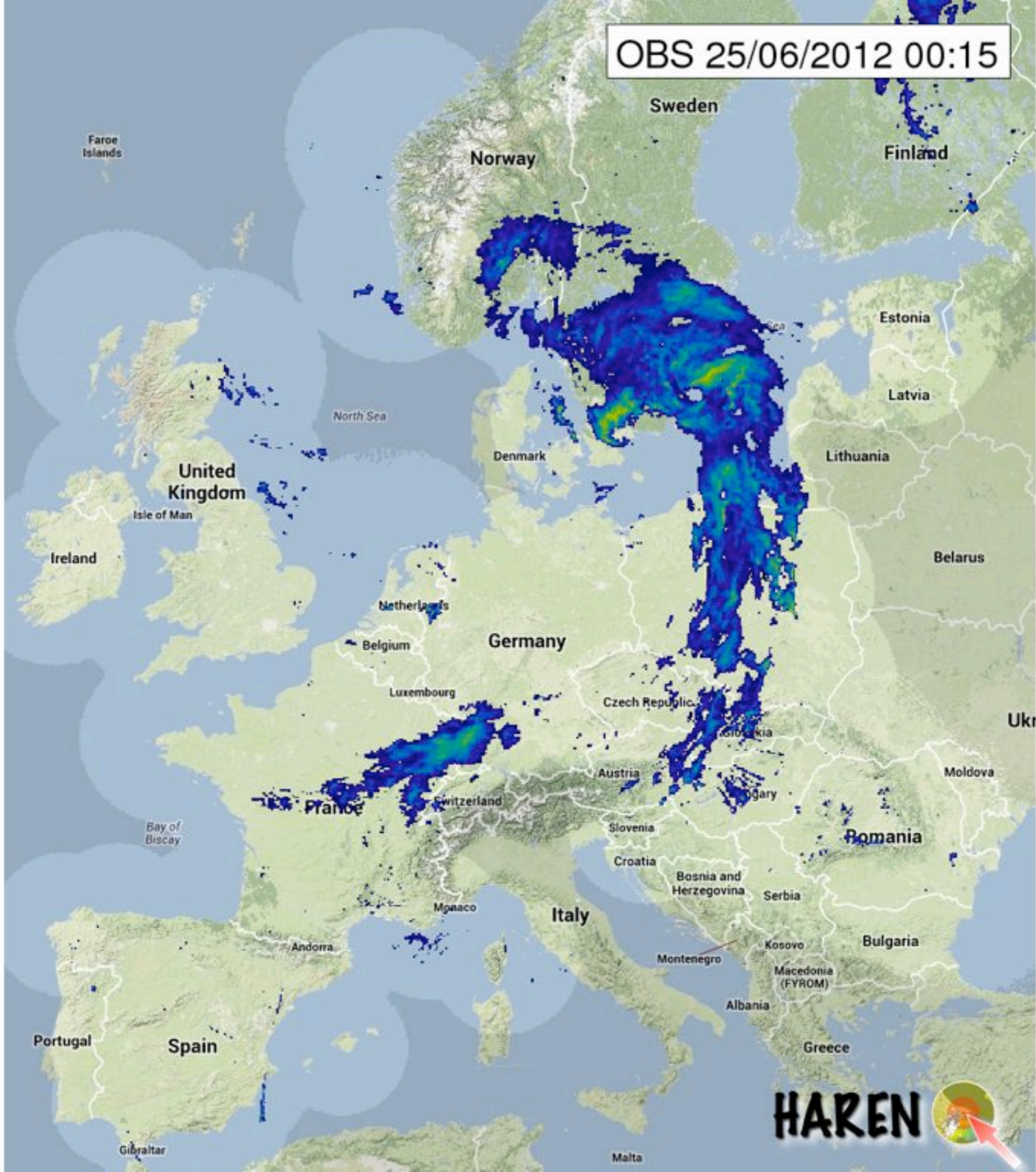


European  
Civil Protection

**190 radars**  
**30 countries**



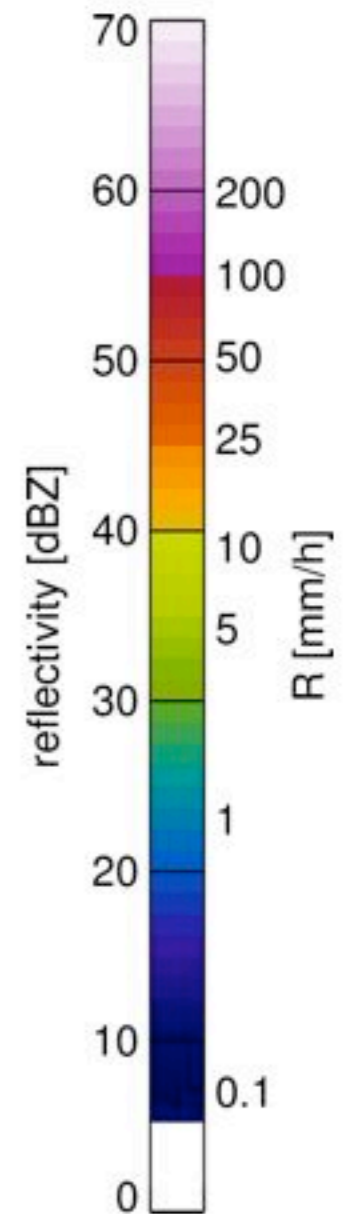
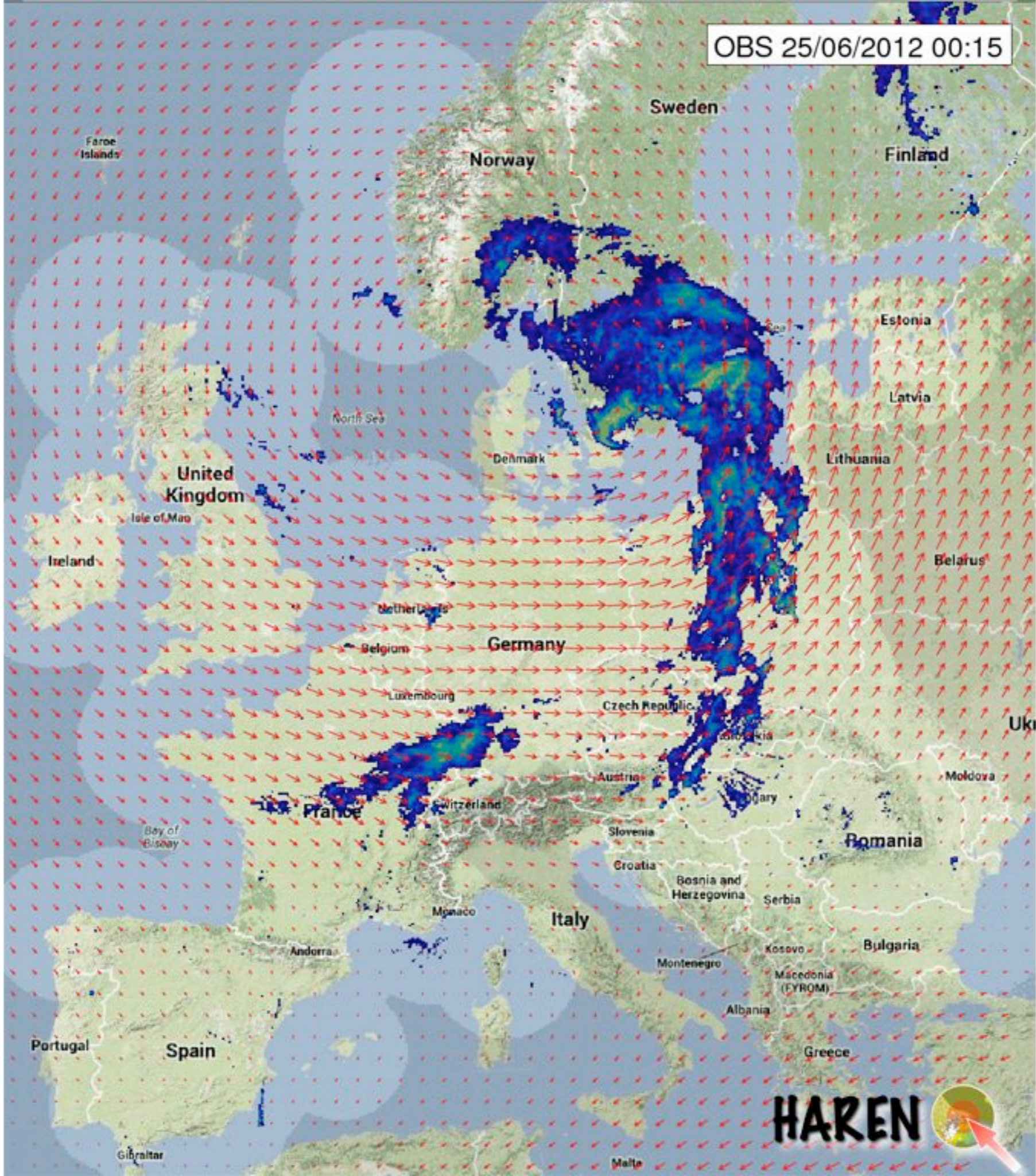
OBS 25/06/2012 00:15



**HAREN**



OBS 25/06/2012 00:15



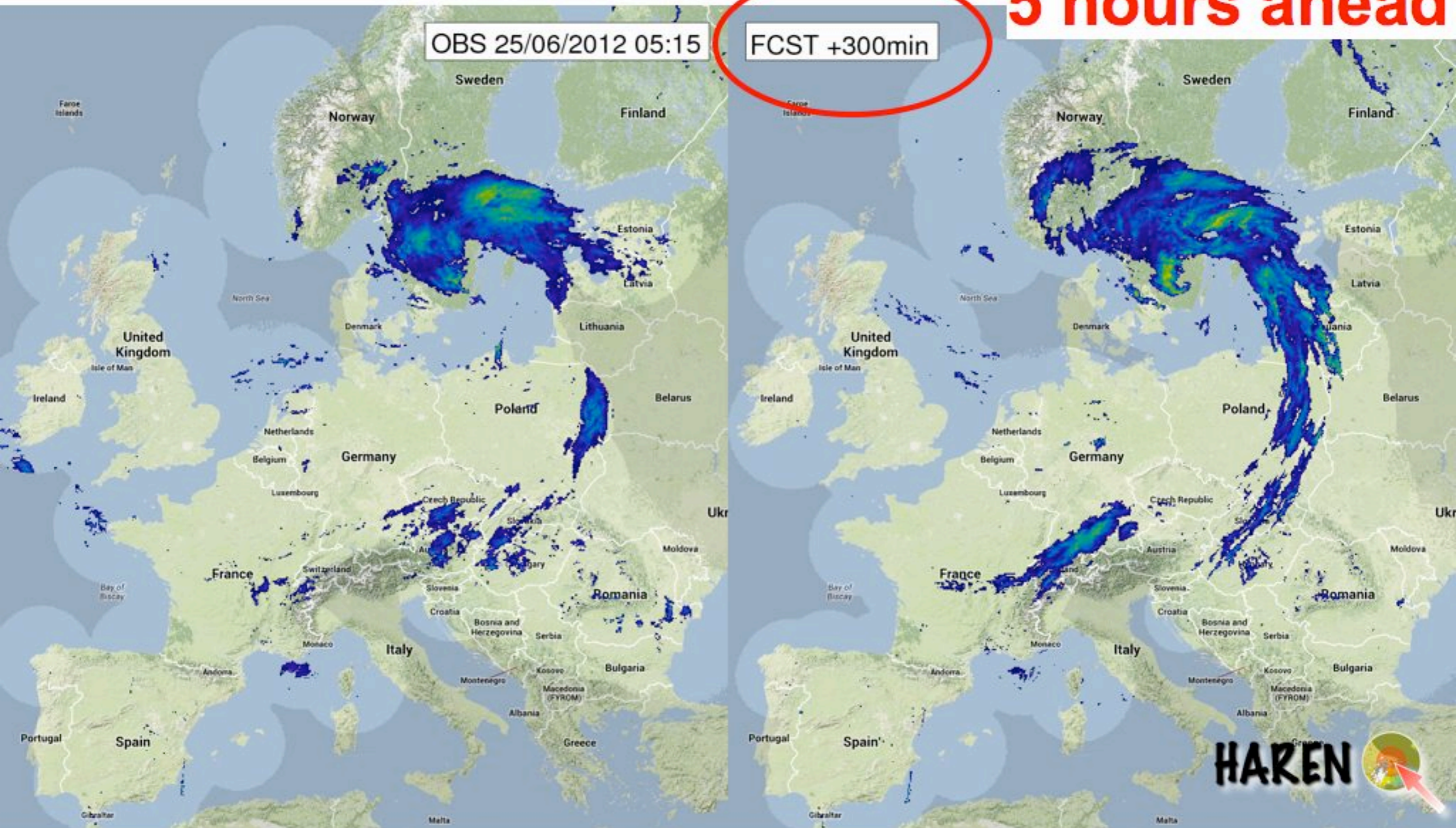
**HAREN**



# European Radar Nowcasting - OPERA mosaics

Over a network of 150+ radars.

**5 hours ahead**



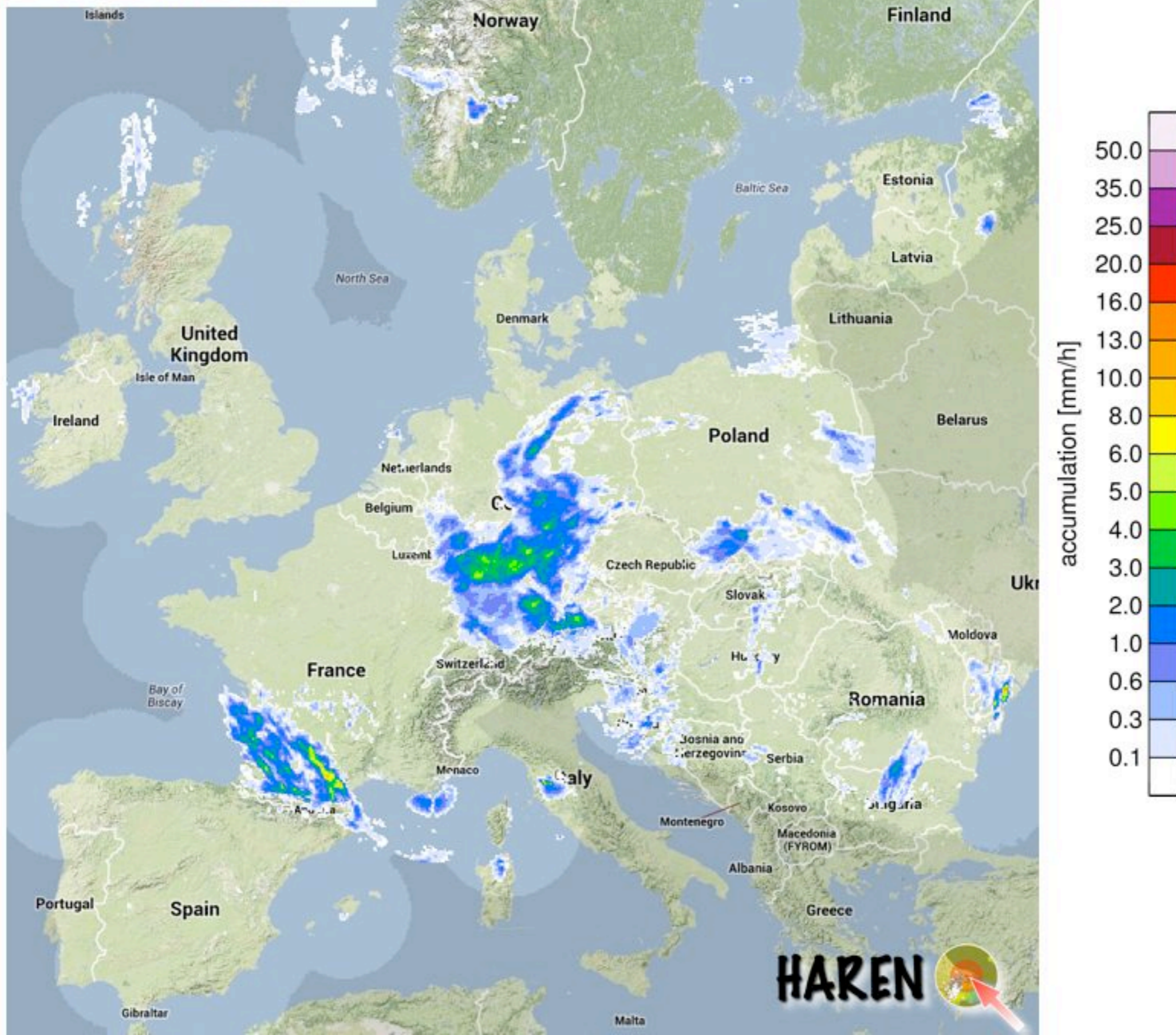
**CRAHI Algorithm of nowcasting by lagrangian persistence**

*Berenguer et al. J. Hydrometeorology, 2005; J. of Hydrology, 2011*



# 1h-accumulation rainfall nowcasts

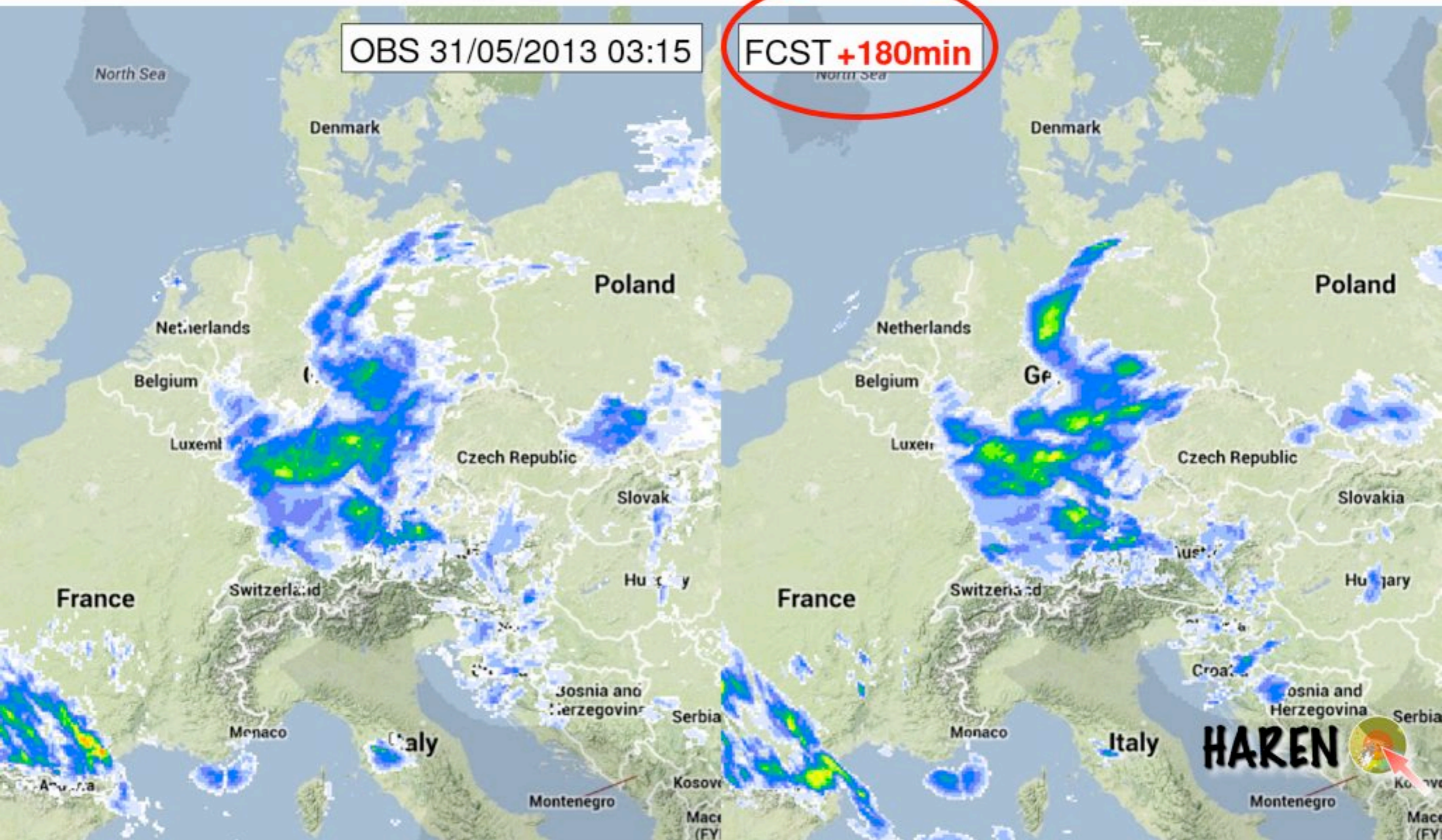
OBS 31/05/2013 03:00





# 1h-accumulation rainfall nowcasts

Nowcasts @ 31 May 2013 3h ahead





# **CASE STUDY in The Netherlands (20 June 2013)**

Ondertussen in het oosten van het land:  
zandzakken en rubberbootjes

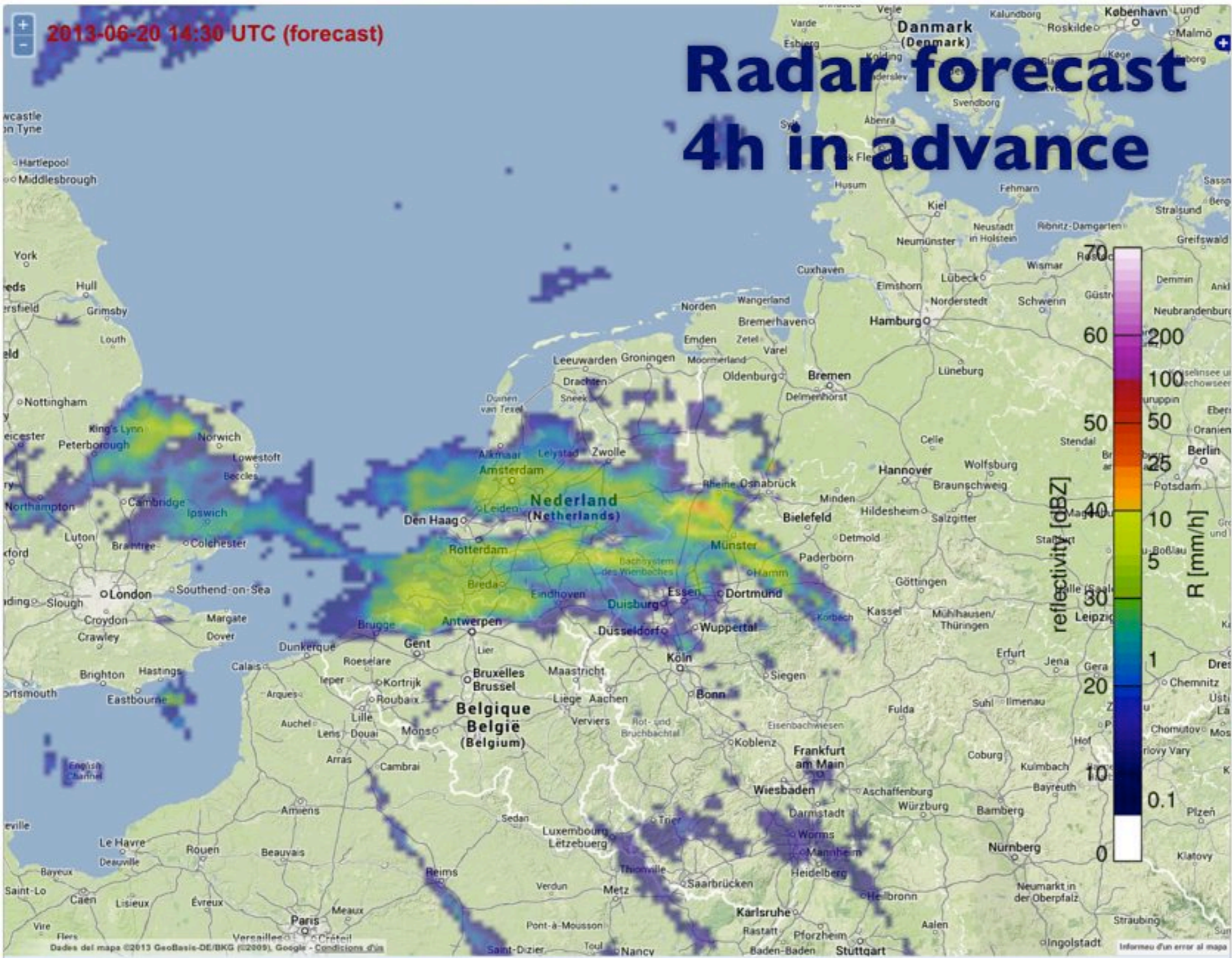


Noodweer in Enschede. Screenshot van WeerGroningen.



2013-06-20 14:30 UTC (forecast)

# Radar forecast 4h in advance



Real Time Historical Episode

Jun 2013

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Today

Number of Frames: 32  
Hour/Minute: 24 : 00 :

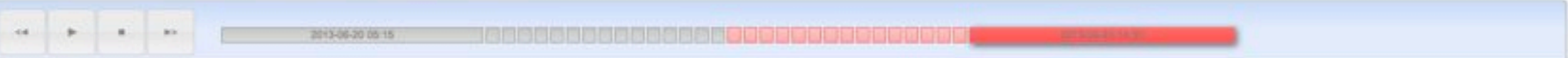
- Topographies**
- Google Physical
  - Google Streets
  - Google Satellite
  - Google Hybrid

- Layers**
- Convective cells
  - Reflectivity (dBZ)
  - FMI Product

**HAREN partners:**



Center Lon.:0.99 Lat.:54.81 X (Km utm):109844.92 Y (Km utm):7324521.07



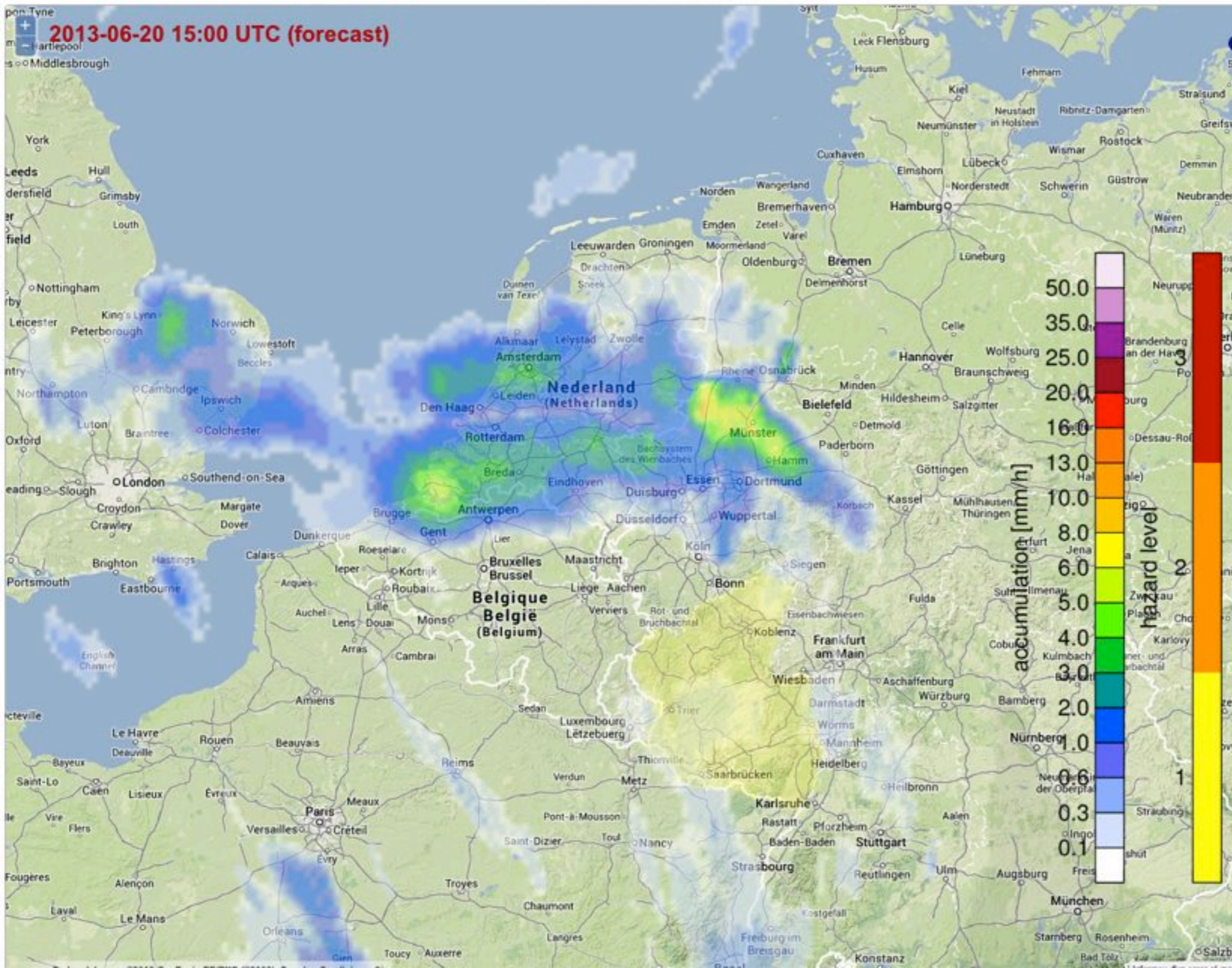


# 1h Radar Accumulation 4h in advance



OPERA Mosaic - HAREN PROJECT

Instantaneous Precipitation Hazard Assessment NWP



2013-06-20 15:00 UTC (forecast)

Real Time Historical Episode

Jun 2013

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Number of Frames: 48  
Hour/Minute: 24 : 00 :

- Topographies
- Google Physical
  - Google Streets
  - Google Satellite
  - Google Hybrid

- Layers
- Hazard Assessment
  - Accumulated Rain (1h)

HAREN partners:



# 1h Radar Accumulation

OPERA Mosaic - HAREN PROJECT

OPERA Mosaic - HAREN PROJECT

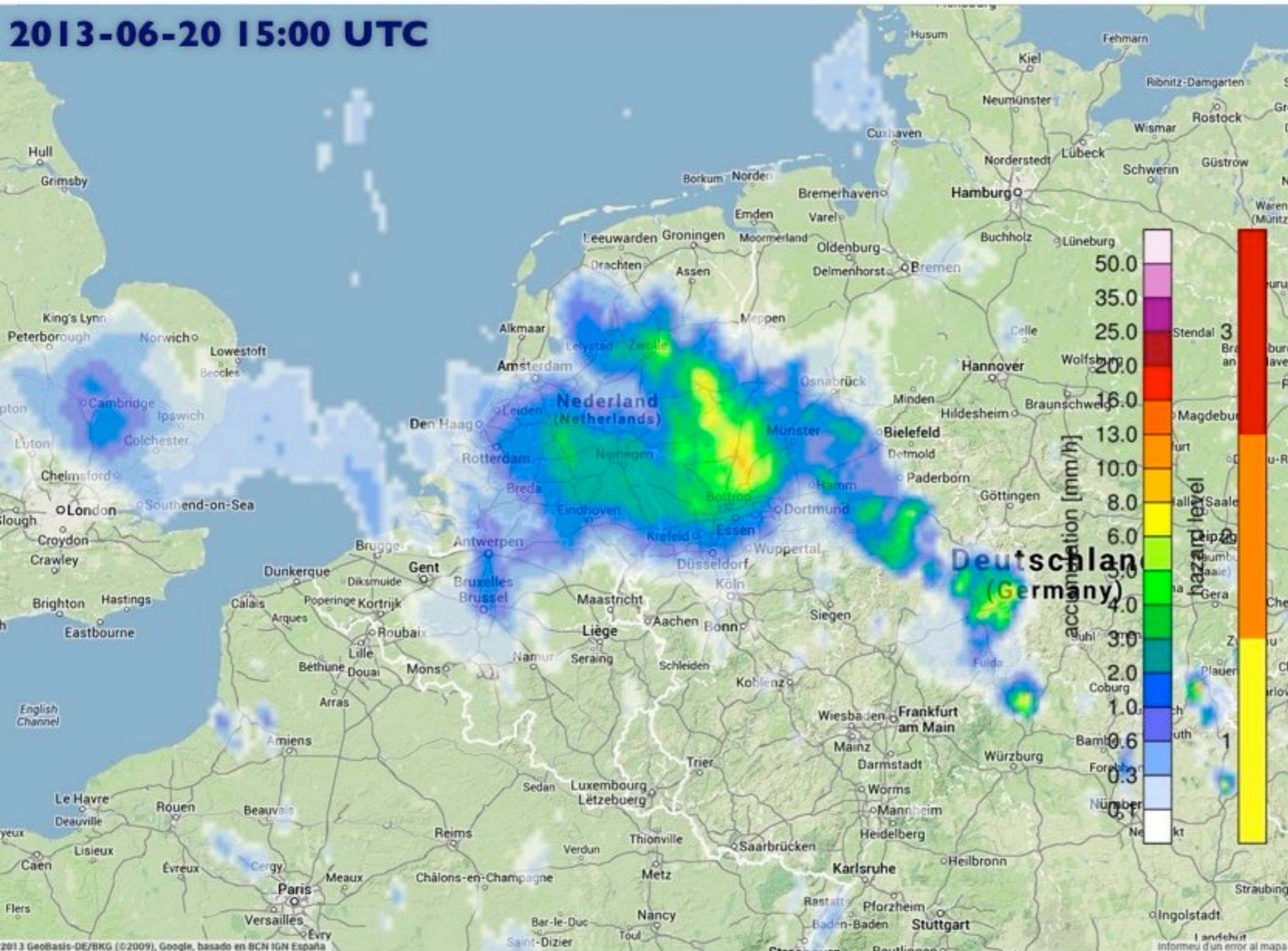
Instantaneous Precipitation | Hazard Assessment | NWP

## Observed



European Civil Protection

### 2013-06-20 15:00 UTC



Real Time  Historical Episode

Jun 2013

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Today

Number of Frames: 32

HourMinute forecasting time: 15:00

[View](#)

- Topographies
- Google Physical
  - Google Streets
  - Google Satellite
  - Google Hybrid

- Layers
- Hazard Assessment
  - Accumulated Rain (1h)

HAREN partners:



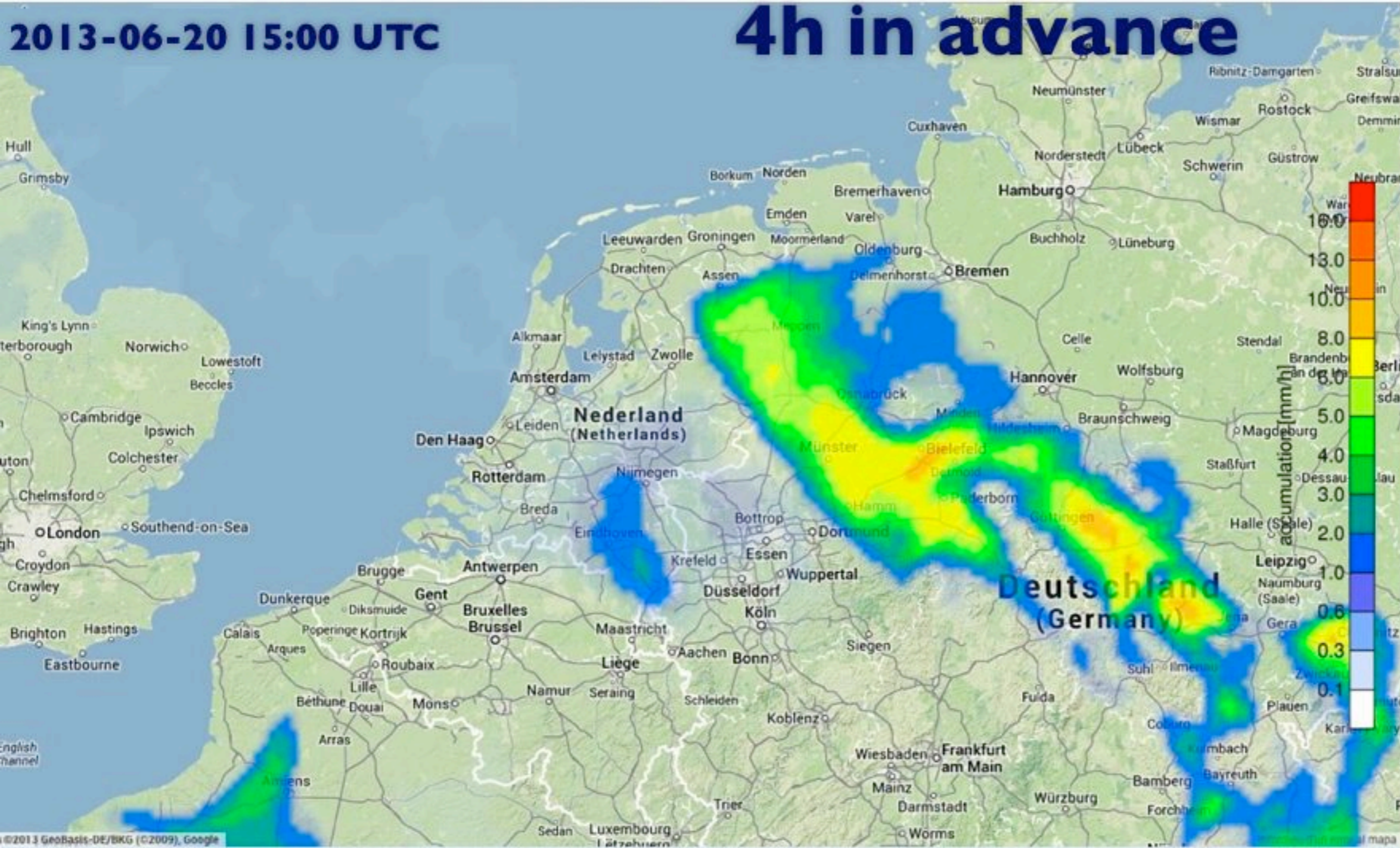


# Model forecast



## 2013-06-20 15:00 UTC

## 4h in advance



Real Time  Historical Episode

Jun 2013

Su Mo Tu We Th Fr

2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12	13	14
16	17	18	19	20	21
23	24	25	26	27	28
30					

Today

Number of Frames 32

Hour/Minute forecasting time 15 : 00

[View](#)

### Topographies

- Google Physical
- Google Streets
- Google Satellite
- Google Hybrid

### Layers

- NWP hourly accumulation
- % [R > 1mm]

### HAREN partners:



on.:8.81 Lat.:54.36 X (Km utm):981227.04 Y (Km utm):.7238911.60





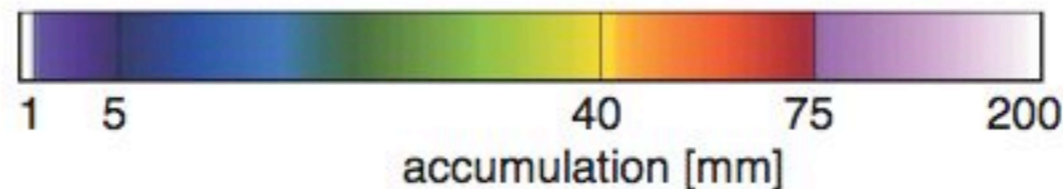
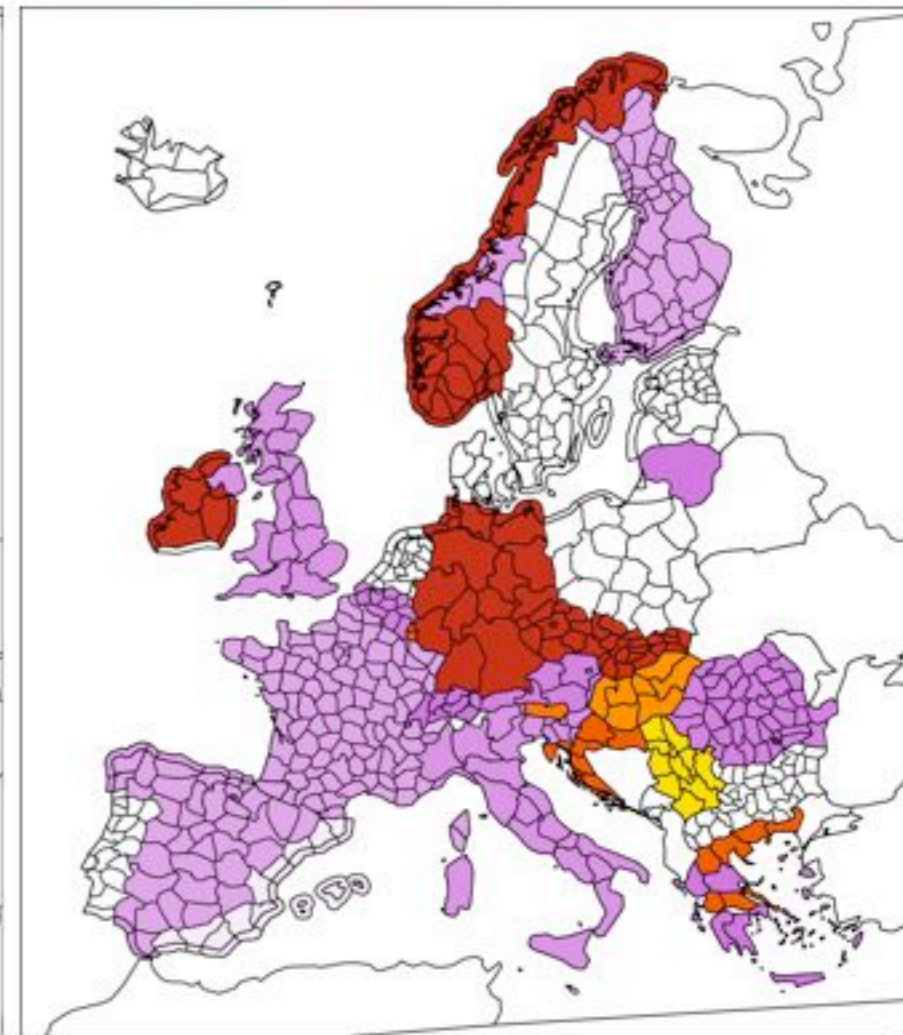
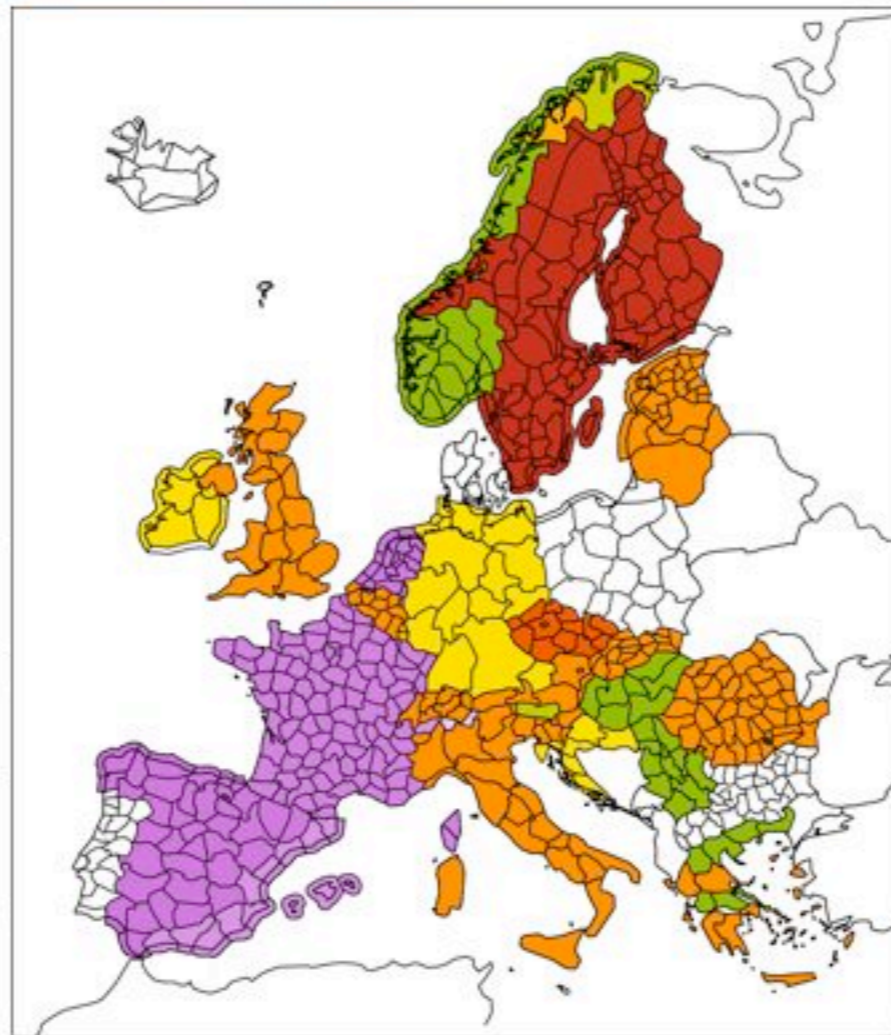
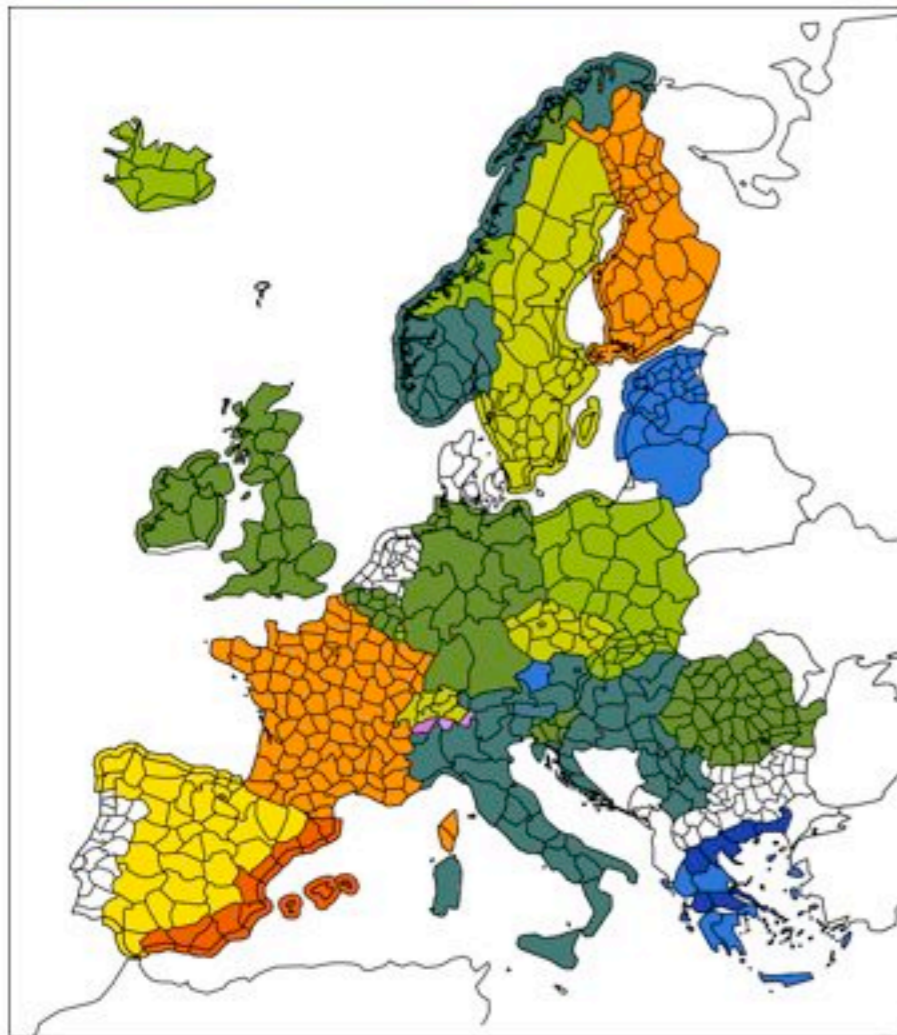
# HAZARD ASSESSMENT

regional thresholds for 12-h accumulations  
defined by METEOALARM

hazard level 1

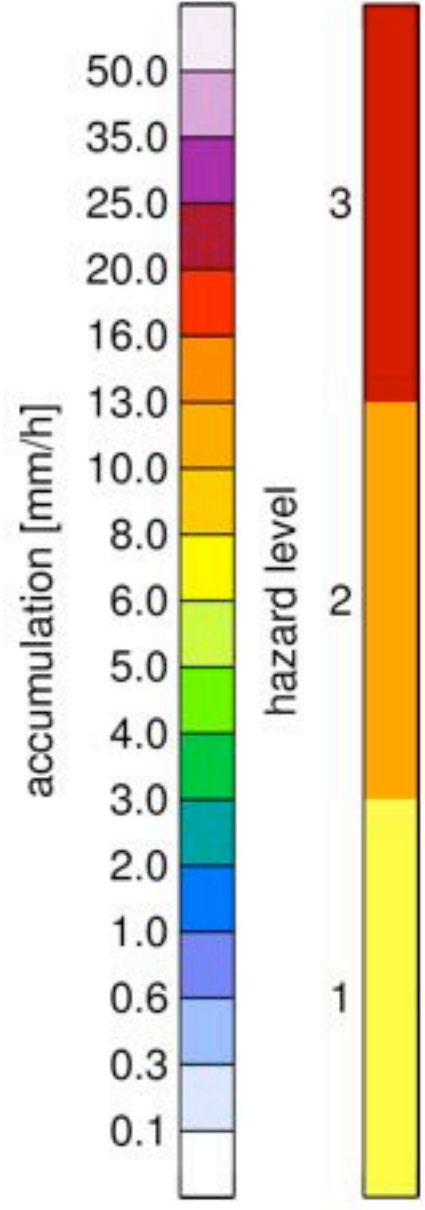
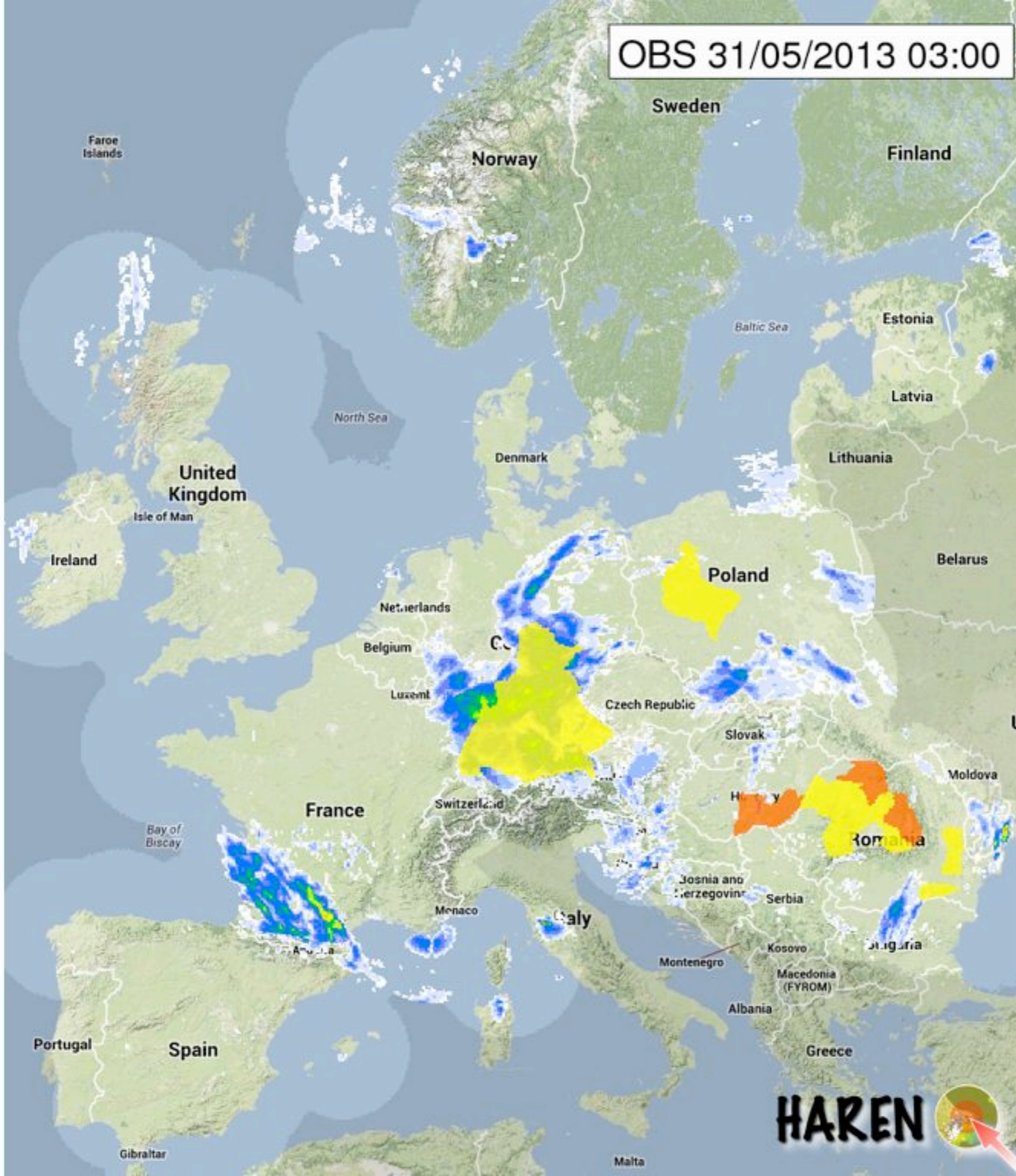
hazard level 2

hazard level 3





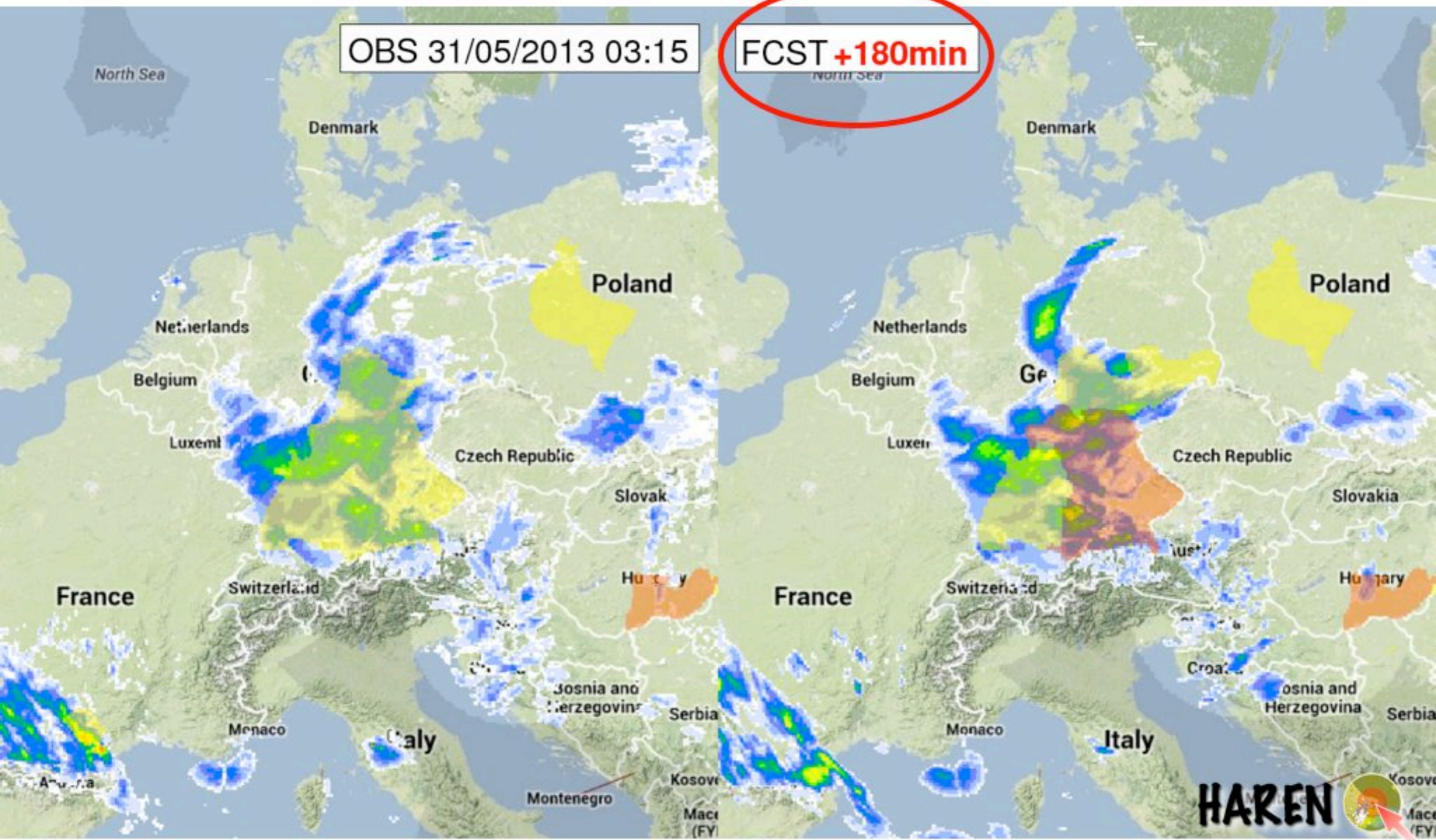
OBS 31/05/2013 03:00





# Hazard assessment based on 1h rainfall accumulations

Nowcasts @ 31 May 2013 3h ahead



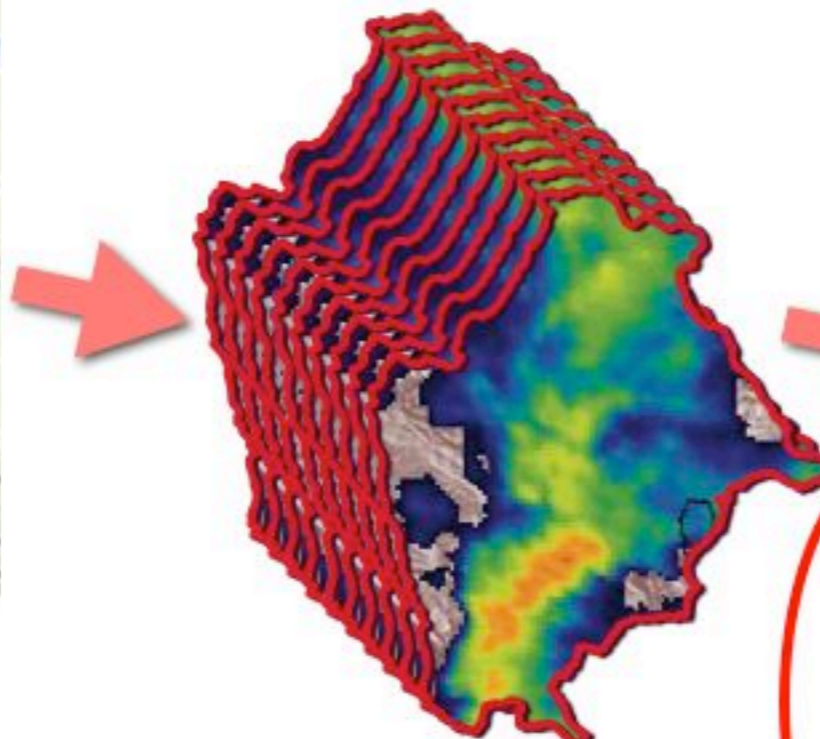


# FF & DF early warning systems

## EDHIT Radar Rainfall forecasts

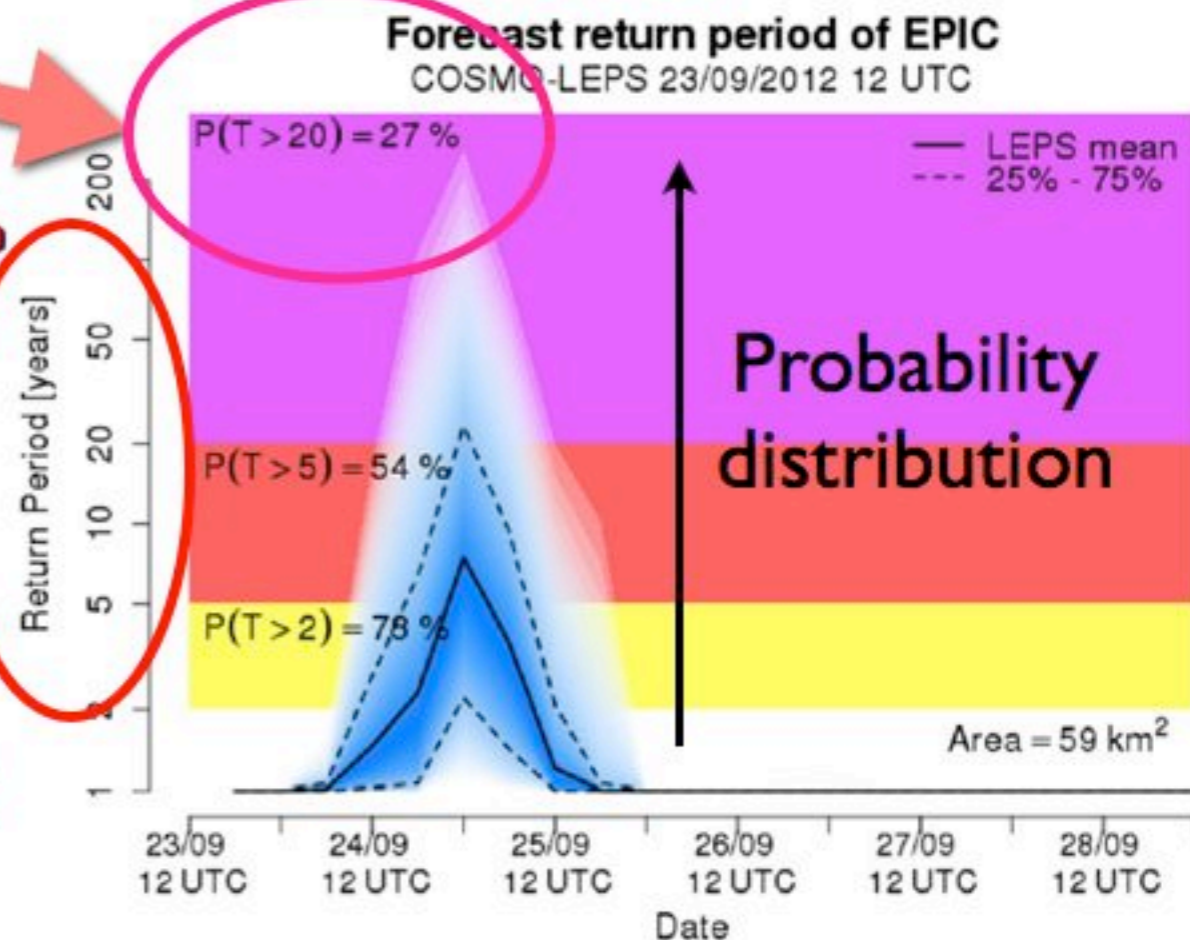


## Probabilistic basin aggregated rainfall forecasts



Warning code associated  
to the 75% percentile  
member

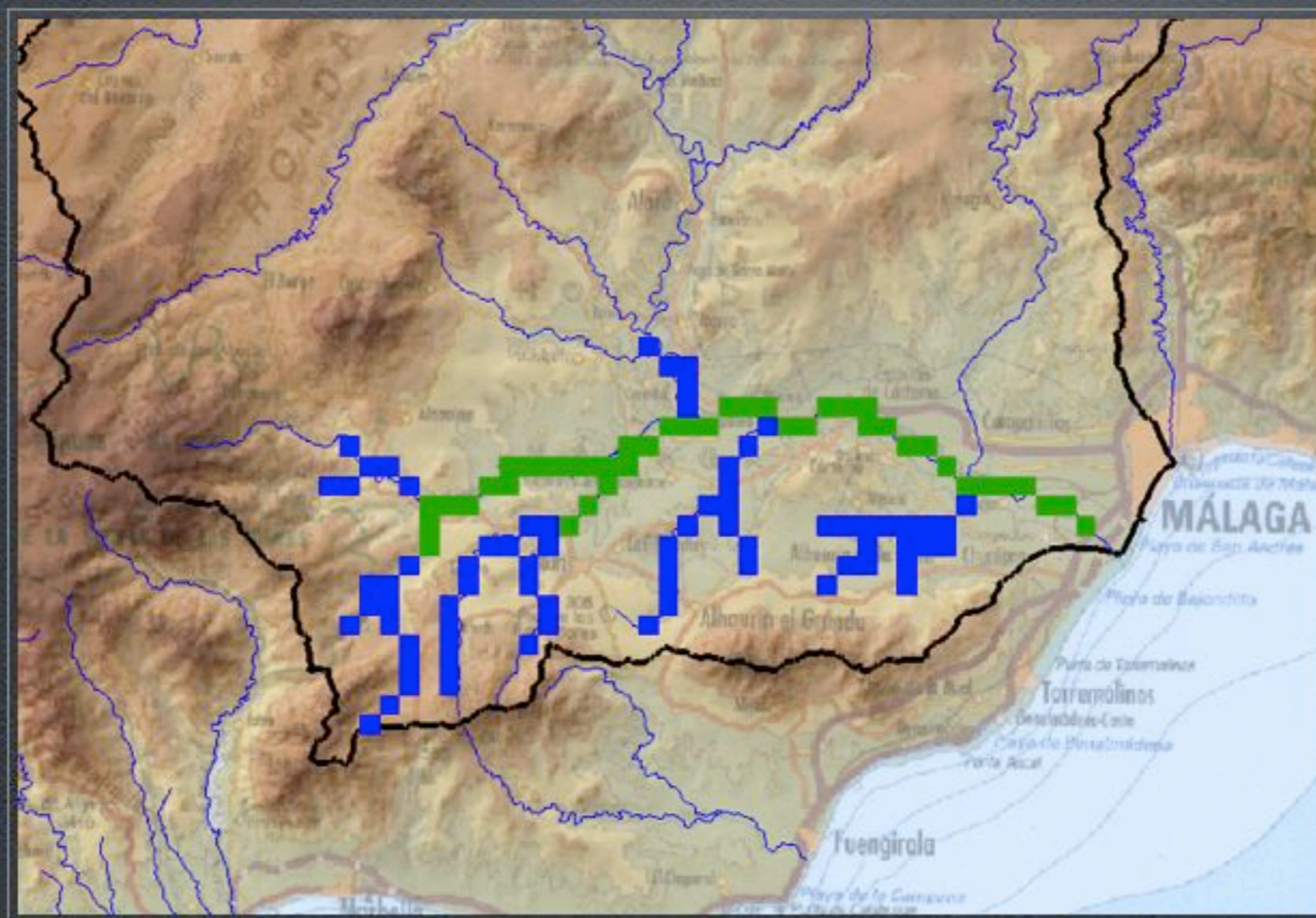
Return Period of any  
member calculated by  
comparison against EPIC  
climatology





## IMPRINTS FF & DF early warning system

- Probabilistic Early Warning System based on the probability of basin-aggregated rainfall exceedences



Guadalhorce  
basin  
(Malaga)  
16/02/2010

Example of  
PFFGS 1 km  
Source: CRAHI

Flood Warning



2 5 10 25 50 100 200

Exceeded Return Period T(years)

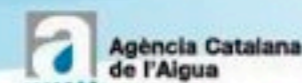


# Course on tools to support the EU Flood Directive implementation on for Flash Flood prone areas



Català Castellano English

OPERATIONAL CENTER  
Agencia Catalana del Agua (ACA)



L'Aigua  
en temps real

Dades d'avui

Pluja

Mapa d'avisos

Històrics



## Mapa d'avisos

Detecció d'indrets on cal posar-hi una atenció especial.

### Avisos Hidrològics

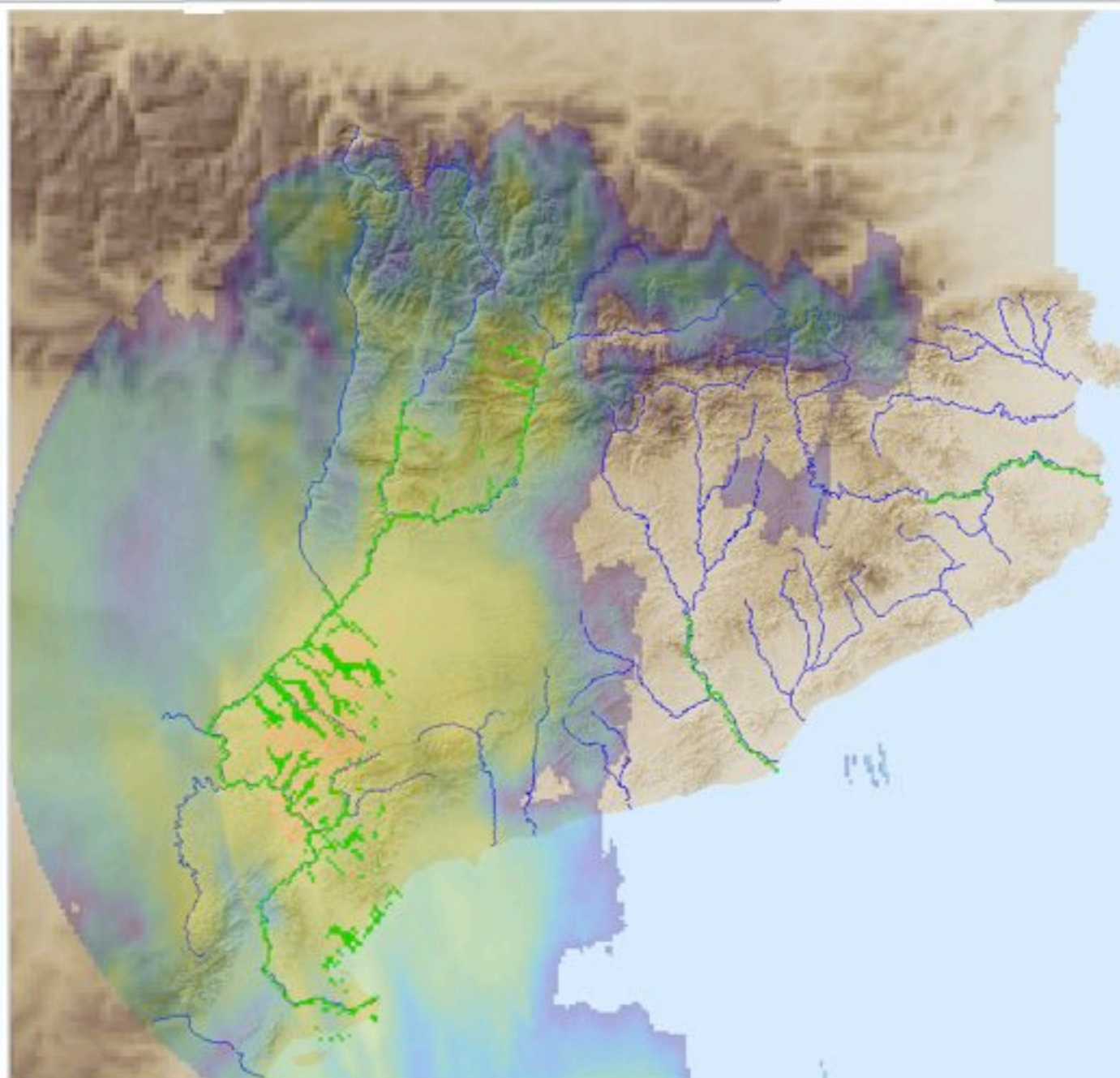
Algua acumulada

Algua al riu

### Avisos Meteorològics

Avisos (SMC)

Estat Hidrologia:



00:30 UTC  
02/11/2008  
Hora Inici: 00:00  
Hora Fi: 00:00  
X (Km<sub>UTM</sub>): 521  
Y (Km<sub>UTM</sub>): 4642

Informació de les capes | Gestió de capes

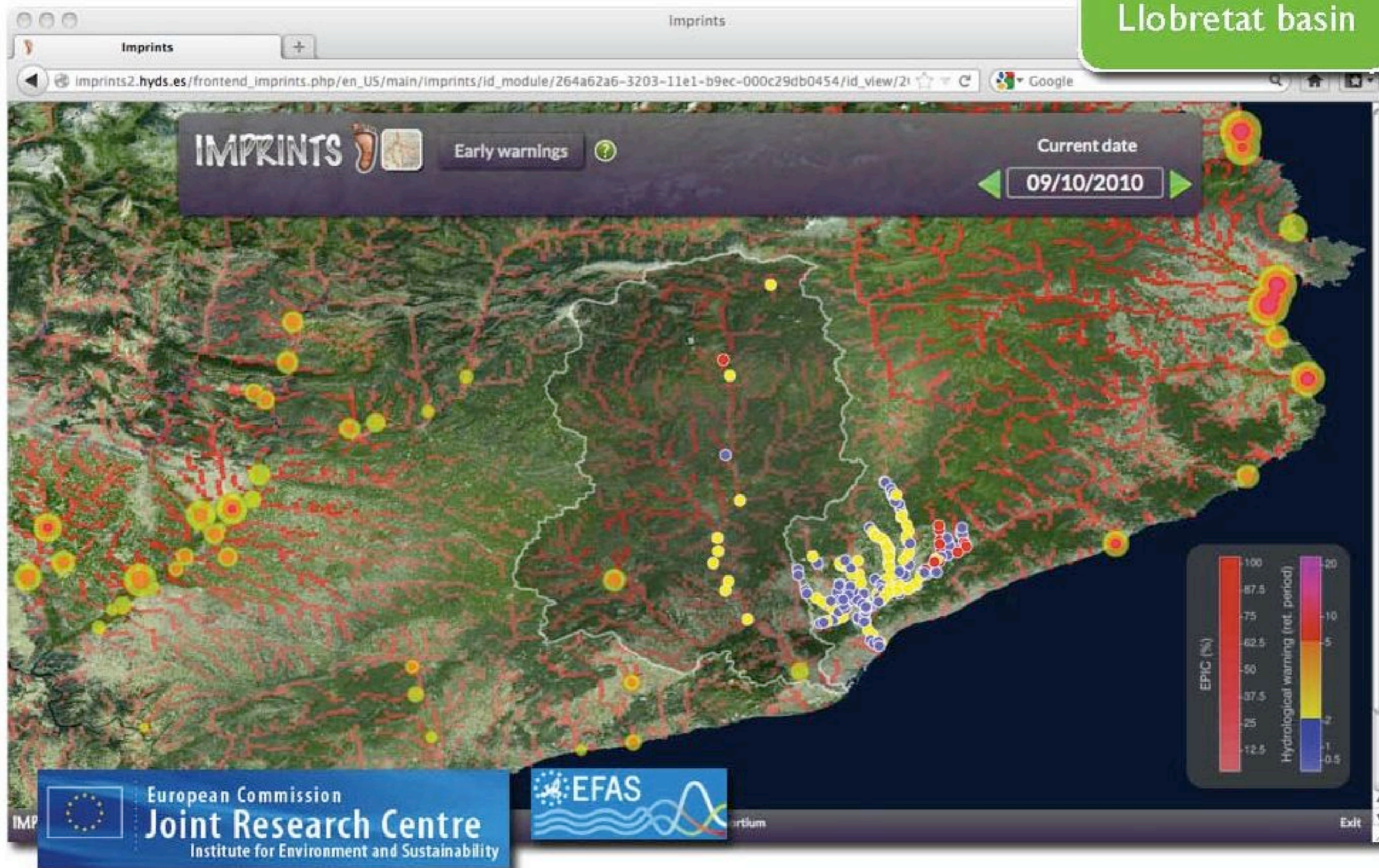
- (100%) Alerta pluja agregada
- (100%) Acun30
- (31%) Acun30 combi
- Capa Rius
- (100%) Acun1dia
- (100%) Comb1dia
- (100%) Comb30
- (100%) Alerta pluja puntual
- (100%) Topografia2
- QFresca

Transparencia



# Early warnings (1-6 days in advance)

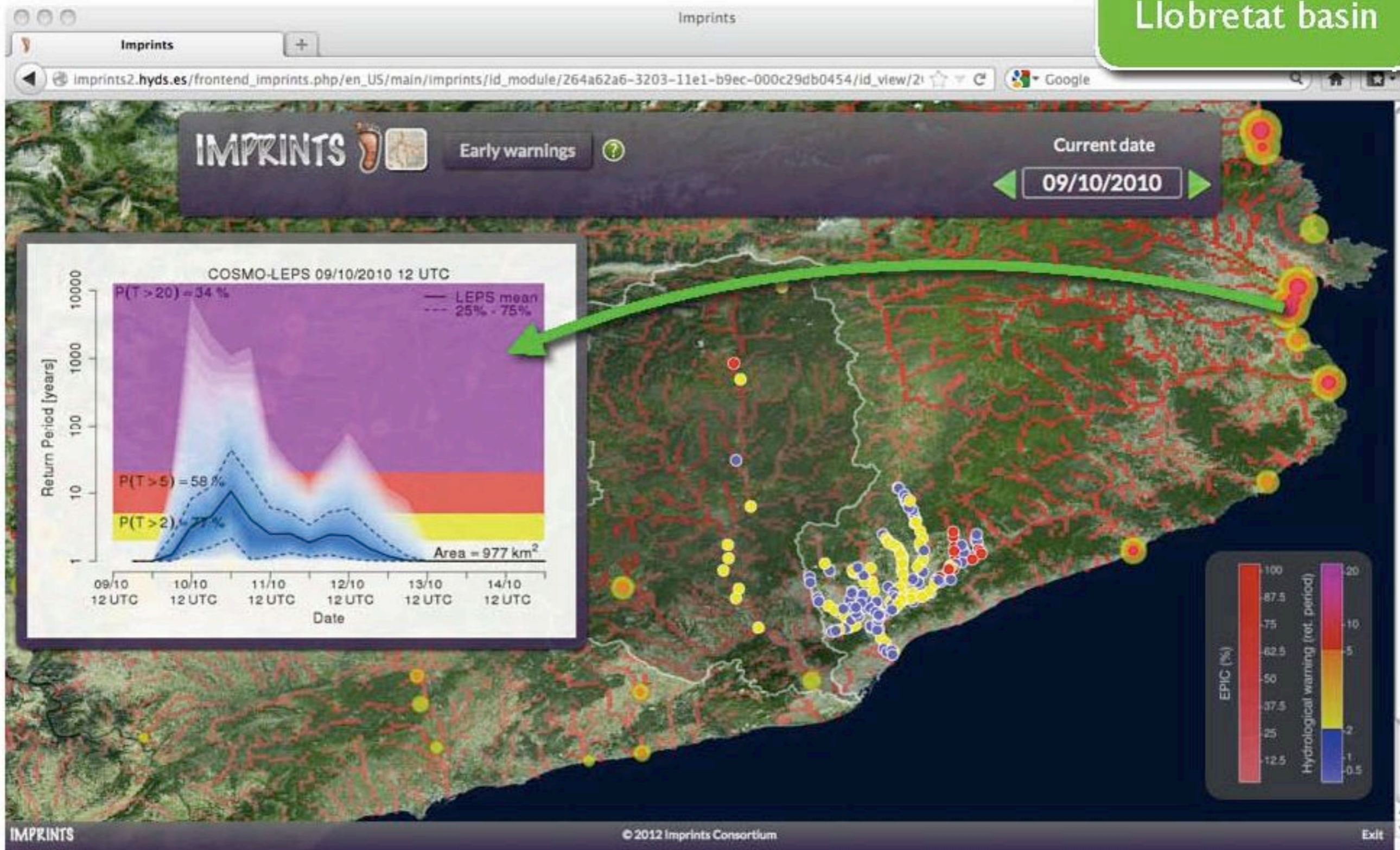
6-10 October  
Llobretat basin





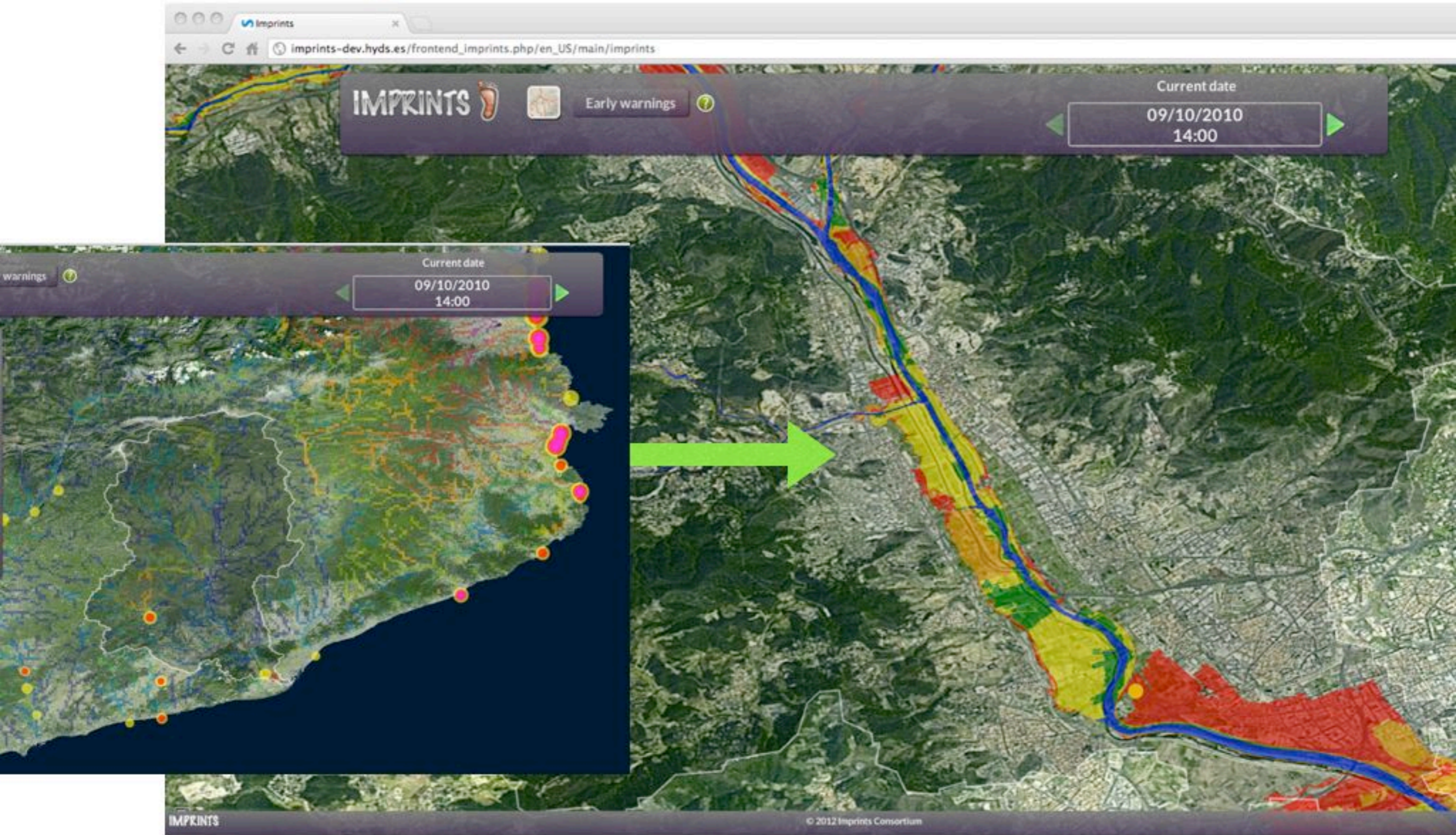
# Early warnings (1-6 days in advance)

6-10 October  
Llobretat basin





# Warnings at basin scale 10/10/2010



crossed with vulnerability and risk maps





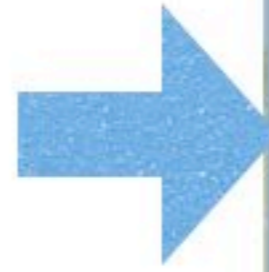
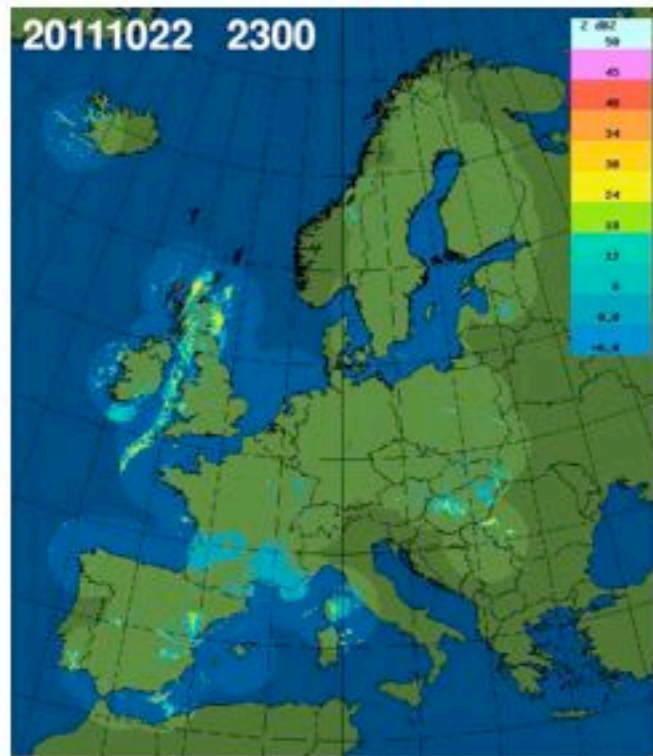






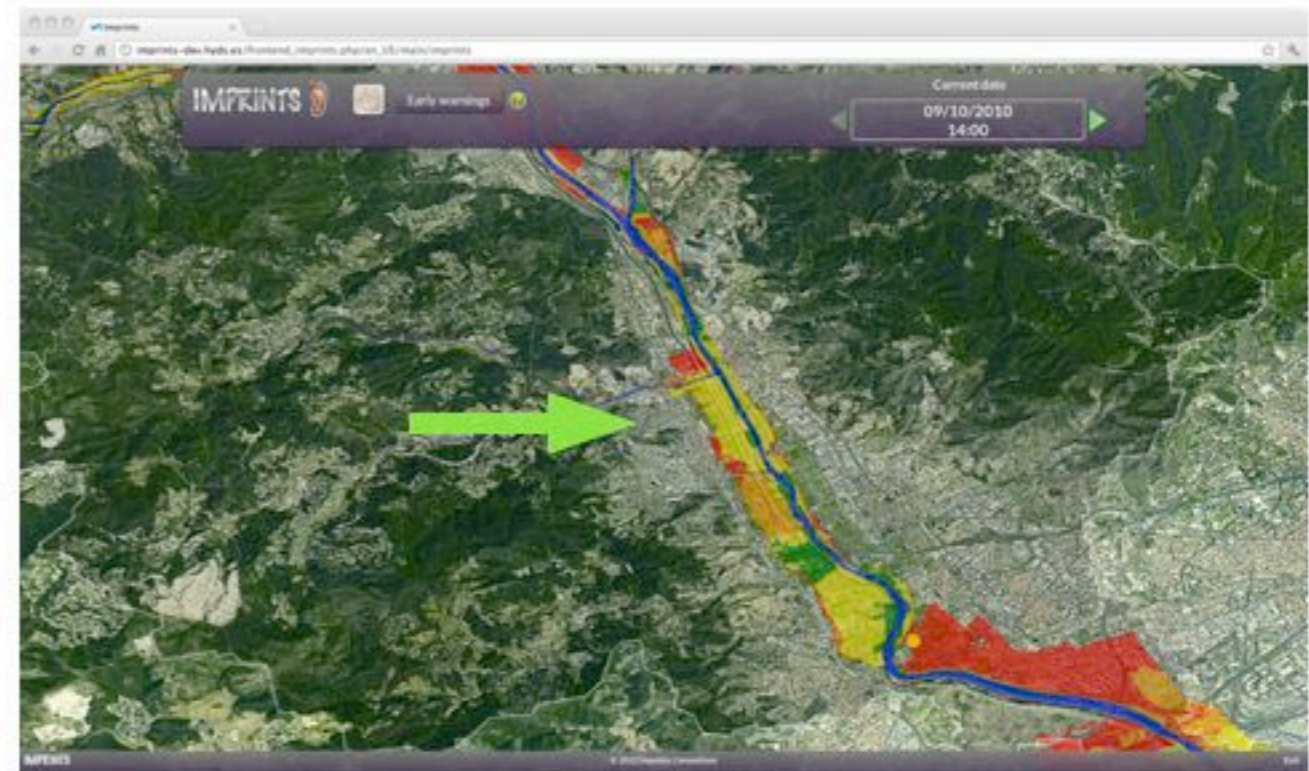
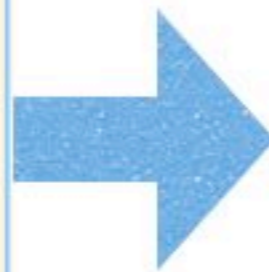
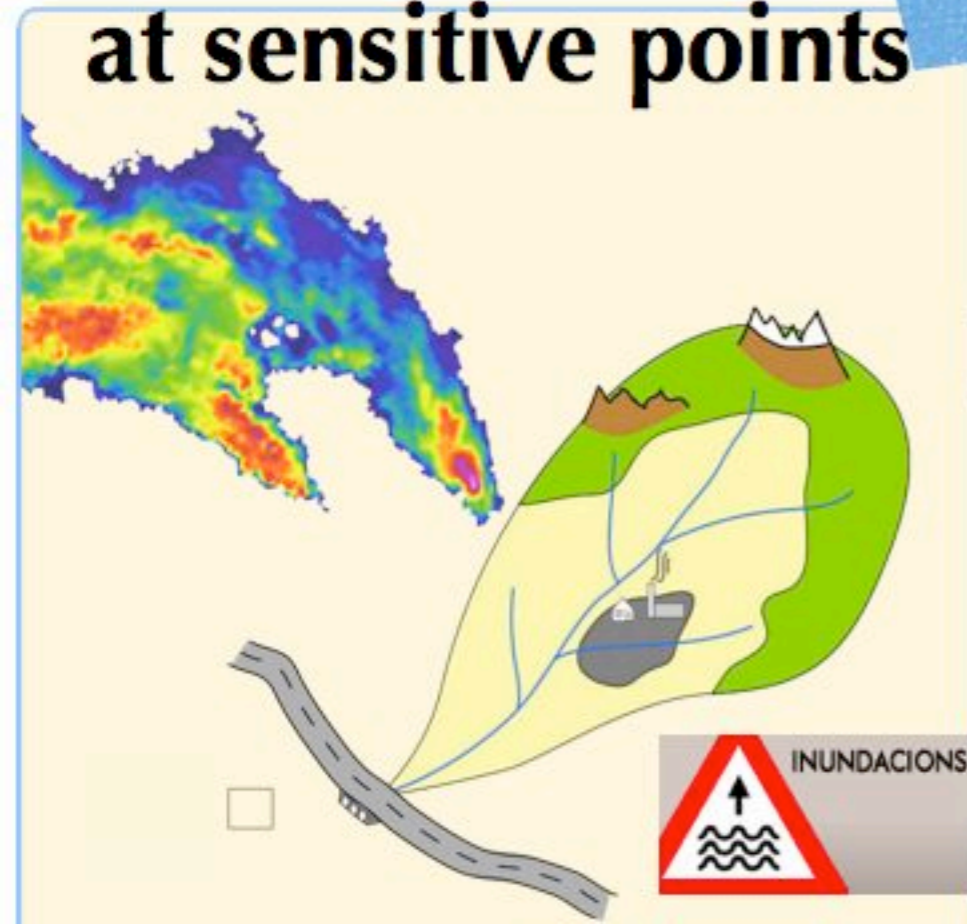


# From observations



**High resolution  
rainfall nowcastings  
over Europe  
@2km every  
15 minutes**

# Hazard anticipation at sensitive points



**Cross them with  
vulnerability maps**





# Advanced real-time hydrometeorological warnings

**Because tools are just tools**

**what you really need is people**

**well trained brilliant people**